



HOUSE OF TOWNEND

FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1906



**BORDEAUX 2024  
EN PRIMEUR**

# BORDEAUX 2024

It was rather ironic that on the day we started tasting the Bordeaux 2024 barrel samples, the headlines back in the UK were about Bordeaux giving over to Hull as the place to grow Cabernet Sauvignon within the next hundred years! One headline “Bordeaux burns, Hull blooms” made me smile except for the fact we were about to taste wines that had been produced in one of the most climatically challenging vintages for many years. We were braced for ‘cool climate claret’!

If ever there was a vintage that needed rigorous selection it was 2024. It was the year that Mother Nature threw a temper tantrum, a year of climatic chaos that started with an extremely wet winter season. Excessive rain continued into spring unleashing a Mildew mayhem that challenged the producers throughout the growing season, particularly affecting the Merlot vines. Parcels were affected unevenly, with some bunches healthy and others looking like they had been through a fungal horror show.

The best way to sum up Bordeaux 2024 is that it is a true triumph of winemaking and resilience. It is the smallest vintage since 1991, and probably the costliest. Mildew doesn't wait for Monday so weekend working became the norm, with multiple treatments. Bizarrely organic producers fared better than conventional ones; they are always ready for the challenge, spray with copper sulphate preventatively rather than reactively and in many instances have yielded more voluminous crops than the conventional producers.

Harvest was a full two weeks later than in 2023 with those who held their nerve and waited being rewarded for their bravery by increased sugar levels. Alcohols are 13.5% or less with some notable wines coming in at less than 13%. 2024 may not have produced big, concentrated fruit bombs, but there are some outstanding, finely balanced wines to be found that will be ready for drinking within 6-7 years, not dissimilar to 2014. In many instances the release prices are very attractive too.

One final note. At the Fête de Bon Temps dinner on the 17th April at Château Pontet-Canet organised by the Commanderie du Bontemps de Médoc, Graves, Sauternes et Barsac, one of the oldest and most prestigious wine brotherhoods in France, we were served a wonderful array of wines including Château Haut Brion 2005 and Château Pontet-Canet 2010, great wines from great vintages, however to my mind it was Château Palmer 2011 that stole the show. 2011 is known for producing elegant and fresh wines and they are drinking beautifully now. There is a lesson here!

*Top tips:*

This is the vintage to buy in Magnum!

Bordeaux dry whites and Sauternes are excellent and not to be overlooked.



# THE GROWING SEASON

The winter of 2025/4 was mild and exceptionally wet, with 50% more rainfall than the 10 year average. The water table was already high as the 2024 growing season started, with the mild temperatures precipitating early phenological development. At this time there was no hint that this was to be one of the most challenging vintages on record.

Spring time was wet and humid and by mid April, whilst the rainy conditions continued the temperatures dropped, slowing down the vine growth and this irregular growth pattern continued through to May. There was still little sign of any sunny weather and by mid June, with the rains continuing to fall and temperatures rising and then falling, the flowering proved to be difficult. Mildew was a continuous problem with the Merlot vines suffering the most in the Médoc.

Of particular interest is how well organically farmed estates fared. They are used to the tremendous work ethic required and have become particularly adept at controlling mildew, continually treating through the rainy weather. At Château Pontet-Canet they treated 31 times! It may surprise some to hear that in many instances organic producers have managed to produce larger yields compared to those estates that follow more conventional viticultural practices.

Temperatures finally started to rise in mid July and continued until the end of August. The nights remained cool, preserving the acidities, and there was hope that after such a challenging growing season, that the end result would be worth it. However, the final kick in the teeth was just around the corner with the rains returning at the beginning of September, when the weather was unpredictable with sporadic rains playing with the heads of the already beleaguered vigneron. Now was the time to hold their nerves and those who waited and allowed the grapes to fully ripen were well rewarded. Not all did.



# THE WINES

2024 was a very demanding, tiring, psychologically difficult and indeed costly vintage. Despite all these challenges we tasted some beautifully constructed wines which bear no comparison to the wet and cool vintages of the past. Indeed, they are a real tribute to the highly skilled viticulture and vinification techniques of those who manage the great Châteaux of Bordeaux, as well as their deep pockets!

Lilian Barton mused that ...”in vintages such as 2022, if you didn’t make a good wine you need to find yourself another job!” 2024 wasn’t a vintage where the wine made itself! The problem wasn’t just the amount of rain, but also the timing. It always seemed to fall at the wrong time! Other vigneronns described the growing season as “a fight”!

2024 was a really technical vintage, a very costly vintage due to the amount of work required in the vineyards, a vintage of low extraction, classically structured with high acidities, so one can expect them to hold good ageing potential. Similar to 2021 but with rounder tannins, more red than black fruits. Those who picked early have produced dilute wines, whilst those who waited obtained good fruit concentration. Key to the vintage was the sorting table.

So what about the wines? The secret was ‘don’t extract to conserve the fruit.’ Cool climate Claret is a fair description of the style of wine produced and whilst they may not be full of opulent richness and power, they do have some particular characteristics that will endear them to the claret lover in the future. Selection was key, but the wines that we liked were notable for their precision, balance and delicious fresh red and black fruits. Surprisingly the tannin structures are remarkably refined and the alcohols moderate at 12.5-13.5%, so for those who are drawn to finesse and charm over power, this vintage will find many friends.

In the Médoc it is very much a Cabernet Sauvignon vintage. A late ripening varietal, it was less affected by the widespread mildew earlier in the season and benefited from the warm climes in August, resulting in wonderful fresh, mineral driven fruits lending notes of graphite to the wines. Also, more resistant to mildew, the Cabernet Franc provides finesse and elegance. The Merlot lends roundness and dark fruits but has taken a back seat role after succumbing to the mildew onslaught.

It was notable that little, or even no Petit Verdot was used in the final blends. It was a particularly challenging vintage for Petit Verdot, renowned for being prone to irregular fruit set, due to the combination of cool, wet spring conditions and uneven flowering, both of which disproportionately affect this late ripening variety. The vigneronns struggled to achieve full phenolic ripeness and many of the wines produced, showed excessive rusticity and were largely eliminated from the final blends. Those Châteaux that persisted produced rather harsh and edgy wines that will offer little pleasure.



On the right bank in Pomerol and Saint Emilion, 2024 is stylistically similar to both 2008 and 2012 – fruity and aromatic wines with soft tannins and lush textures, accessible when young, but with enough structure for mid-term aging. The wines show a lovely texture and energy with layered red and black fruits and will provide excellent early drinking. For those of us who are moving into our later years, we should be very grateful!

Finally, the dry white wines of Bordeaux are often overlooked in favour of the famous white wine appellations of Burgundy. Whilst understandable it never ceases to amaze me how so many hidden gems await those who care to give their time to uncover and discover the array of Sauvignon and Sémillon blends, particularly from the Pessac-Léognan appellation. Well, 2024 is the year! We tasted some superlative wines. The Sauvignon resisted the mildew and relished the warm summer months whilst the Sémillon delivered grapes full of richness and waxy texture. The acidity levels are superb and the wines are both balanced with intense depth of flavour. They are exceptional - don't miss out!

Sauternes and Barsac have also produced some noteworthy wines, with super acid levels providing the essential balance to the rich Botrytised fruits. The wines are not overpoweringly 'sticky' and display wonderful vibrancy and balance.

In conclusion, 2024 is a fascinating vintage. It was challenging, tiring and expensive to produce but the Bordelais can hold their heads up high and higher still. The top performers, and only those top performers have made it onto our En primeur offer this year, have produced wines that are refined, expressive and possess wonderful balance. They will drink young but given the acidity levels, also have a propensity to go the distance.



JOHN C. TOWNEND  
MANAGING DIRECTOR



NEIL GOLDIE  
PRESTIGE ACCOUNT DIRECTOR



GEORGIA TOWNEND  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
SENIOR BUYER

# WHY BUY EN PRIMEUR

Whilst the days of very low opening prices seem to be behind us, buying En Primeur remains the most direct and reliable way to access the most sought after wines whilst they are still in barrel.

It is also important to recognise that buying En Primeur is more than just price, it is about provenance, access, and choice.

## **PROVENANCE YOU CAN TRUST**

When you buy En Primeur, your wine is delivered straight from the château to your chosen wine merchant's bonded cellars. You know exactly where it has been, how it has been stored, and that it has been handled with care throughout its life. This is vitally important because in contrast, buying mature wines on the open market often means navigating a minefield of unknowns. How many times has the wine changed hands? Has it seen heat, cold, or poor storage along the way? With En Primeur, there is no need to worry.

## **THE WINES YOU WANT, GUARANTEED**

Some of the world's most prestigious wines are made in such small quantities that they are often hard to find once bottled. Buying En Primeur ensures that you secure an allocation of your chosen wine, often with the added benefit of choosing your preferred formats, from half bottles to magnums and double magnums.

## **A CHANGING MARKET**

The wine world doesn't exist in a vacuum. Over the past decade, low interest rates made fine wine seem like a clever place to invest. That influx of speculative buying pushed prices higher and created unrealistic expectations.

Now, with interest rates returning to more traditional levels, the financial case for wine investment is far less clear cut. We believe this is a good thing. At The House of Townend, we have always believed En Primeur should be about drinking pleasure, not speculation. As we often say: "We are wine merchants, not financial advisors."

## **GUIDANCE YOU CAN RELY ON**

We strongly recommend buying En Primeur through an established, reputable wine merchant. The House of Townend has been in the hands of the same family for 119 years, and we pride ourselves on offering thoughtful, honest advice. Whether you are building a cellar, commemorating a special vintage, or simply buying wines you love for future enjoyment, we are here to guide you every step of the way.



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# BORDEAUX BLANC

## PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

Often overlooked for its white wines, Bordeaux actually offers some outstanding everyday drinking, with wines of great character, not just one dimensional fruit. It is a great source of rich and creamy blends, yielding flavours and aromas of Crème Brûlée, baked apples, orange zest, figs and lemon butter.

Geographically, Pessac-Léognan lies just southeast of the Haut-Médoc, forming a natural continuation of the region. Many vineyards in the north have disappeared as the city of Bordeaux has extended outwards. Historically, the entire area was known as Graves, but in 1996 it was divided into two appellations, Pessac-Léognan and Graves. Pessac-Léognan is both the northernmost and the most prestigious part of the region, home to nearly all of its Grands Crus.

### Château Carbonnieux Blanc, Cru Classé, (6x75cl)

£144.00 per case In Bond

67% Sauvignon Blanc, 33% Semillon

Wine has been made at Carbonnieux since the mid-13th century, making it one of Bordeaux's oldest estates. Now run by the 4th generation of the Perrin family, the estate covers 100 hectares of vines and woodland around the highest point in the Léognan commune, right in the heart of the Pessac appellation. Its 90 hectares of vineyards sit on deep clay and gravel soils over limestone, benefiting from excellent drainage thanks to the estate's elevated slopes.

Harvest took place from 2nd to 9th September, with an impressive yield of 40 hl/ha. The wine will be aged for 12 months in 25% new French oak barrels. This is a fine, precise, and well balanced dry white Bordeaux. Fresh, floral and grassy aromas lead into layers of tropical fruit, melon, peach, and mango, that accentuates the crisp acidity and is balanced by sweet oak. The palate is full yet carries real energy and vibrancy throughout. A touch of spice and intense minerality bring focus to the long, clean finish.

Drink 2028-2035



### Château Olivier Blanc, Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£145.00 per case In Bond

80% Sauvignon Blanc, 20% Sémillon

Owned by the Bethmann family since the 19th century, this estate is one of only seven in Pessac-Léognan to be classified for both red and white wines since 1886. The 2024 harvest began on September 5th and finished on 17th September, yielding an impressive 51 hl/ha.

The nose is fresh and zesty, with complex aromas of wet wool, white peach, and acacia blossom. The palate is rich and concentrated, yet remains elegant and expressive, showing remarkable depth and clarity. Ageing will take place over eight months in a mix of 225L barrels (35% new), 600L demi-muids, and a small proportion in wine globes, contributing layers of texture and purity.

Drink 2027-2032



### Château Larrivet Haut Brion Blanc (6x75cl)

£177.00 per case In Bond

62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc

Owned by the Gervoson family since 1987, this 75 hectare estate lies on gravel soils near Château Haut-Bailly and is renowned for producing high-quality red and white wines.

The 2024 white was harvested between 5th and 13th September, with yields of 48 hl/ha. It is aged in 70% new oak, a third of which is in 500 litre demi-muids. Extravagant and intense aromas of oyster shell and fresh sea air make this wine so enticing. The palate is steely and mineral, with notes of gunflint perfectly infused with the tight and seamless white fruit core of pineapple and gooseberry. There is a delicate underlay of subtle oak that provides added dimension.

A super wine!

Drink 2027-2034.



# BORDEAUX BLANC

## Château de Fieuzal Blanc (6x75cl)

£252.00 per case In Bond

65% Sauvignon, 35% Sémillon

The château was acquired in 2001 by Irish businessman and philanthropist, Lochlann Quinn, who has invested heavily whilst also increasing the vineyard holdings, to become one of the larger Classified Growths of the Pessac-Léognan Appellation. From 11 hectares of the estate's 75 hectare vineyard, winemaker Stephen Carrier has produced one of the finest white wines of the 2024 vintage. The harvest took place between September 9th and 19th, yielding an impressive 41 hl/ha. The grapes were whole bunch pressed, with two thirds of the crop fermented and aged in small oak barrels, half of which are new, with the remainder in acacia wood, which is less porous and thus, allowing for a more gradual oxygen exchange.

Aromas of ripe peach and apricot with notes of tropical fruit and a subtle touch of wet wool. On the palate it is rich and concentrated balanced with a vibrant acidity that gives a lovely freshness. Full bodied and textured, it reveals a mineral streak that adds complexity, leading to a long and lingering finish.

Drink 2027–2034 

## Domaine de Chevalier Blanc, Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£417.00 per 6x75cl In Bond

75% Sauvignon, 25% Sémillon

This fine 67 hectare estate is owned and ran by the Bernard family since 1983. Under their stewardship, it was included in the Graves classification of 1953, cementing their reputation as one of region's finest red and white wine producers. Today, Olivier Bernard manages the estate alongside his two sons, Adrien and Hugo. Of the total vineyard, 7 hectares are dedicated to white varieties, yielding 48 hl/ha in the 2024 vintage. Harvest took place between 4th and 16th September, ensuring the grapes were picked at optimal ripeness. The wine will be aged in 33% new oak.

Aromatic and precise on the nose, with citrus zest, white peach, and a touch of salinity. The palate is concentrated yet poised, showing pure fruit, bright acidity, and a refined mineral edge. Structured and balanced, it finishes long with a clean, saline persistence.

Drink 2028-2035 

## Château Pape Clément Blanc (6x75cl)

£530.00 per case In Bond

50% Sauvignon Blanc, 43% Semillon and 7% Sauvignon Gris

Château Pape Clément, founded in the early 13th century, takes its name from Pope Clement V, who once owned the estate as Archbishop of Bordeaux. Today, it is run by Bernard Magrez, who continues to invest in both traditional and cutting-edge techniques. The vineyards are managed sustainably, with sheep mowing the grass, while a private weather station monitors conditions up to 20 miles away and can even seed hailstorms away from the estate. In 2024, this system helped guide precise hand harvesting between rain showers from 5th to 20th September.

The grapes are whole bunch pressed in modern Vaslin presses after cold maceration, then gravity fed into a mix of oak vats, concrete eggs, steel tanks, and barrels for fermentation. The wine spends time on fine lees for added texture and is aged for 12 months in a combination of 50% oak barrels, of which one third is new, along with foudres, concrete, and stainless steel. The 2024 Pape Clément Blanc is full bodied, bold, and finely structured. Notes of grass, peach, and lime citrus and a touch of vanilla. Bright acidity and firm minerality bring tension and balance to the wine's generous weight. The finish is long, poised, and classic, refined and powerful in equal measure.

Drink 2028-2035 

# SAUTERNES & BARSAC

After a satisfying meal, what's better than a chilled glass of dessert wine with your favourite pudding? Especially from the world's finest dessert wine producing region.

South of Bordeaux, Sauternes and Barsac enjoy a unique microclimate shaped by their proximity to the Garonne and Ciron rivers. Here, morning mists and warm autumn afternoons create ideal conditions for the development of *Botrytis cinerea*, also known as noble rot. This beneficial fungus gently shrivels ripe grapes, concentrating their sugars and flavours by reducing their moisture content. The result? Lusciously rich wines with remarkable depth, offering layers of honey, apricot, marmalade, and exotic spice, all balanced by a vibrant streak of acidity that keeps every sip fresh and fascinating.

## Château Liot, Sauternes (12x37.5cl)

£99.00 per case In Bond

80% Sémillon, 15% Sauvignon, 5% Muscadelle

This 24 hectare property has been in the David family for several generations and is currently run by Jean-Gérard David. Although it is labelled Sauternes, it is actually situated on the Haut-Barsac plateau on typical red clay over limestone soils, in the commune of Barsac, next to Château Climens.

The 2024 harvest began on 19th September until 23rd October and involved five *tries*. This vintage is characterised by its brilliant, pale yellow robe and vibrant tangy nose with aromas of dried fruits. On the palate there is concentrated pineapple, ripe apricot and juicy peach with a wonderful purity and freshness that brings perfect balance. This wine will be aged in oak barrels for 18 months, adding further complexity.

## Château Lamothe Guignard, 2ème Cru Classé, Sauternes (12x37.5cl)

£ 112.00 per case In Bond

90% Sémillon, 5% Sauvignon, 5% Muscadelle

Philippe Guignard owns and runs this fine estate which is located on north and west-facing slopes just to the south of Châteaux La Tour Blanche, Guiraud and d'Yquem.

The 2024 harvest was carried out in four selective passes between 20th September and 24th October, resulting in a healthy yield of 14 hl/ha. This vintage marks a stylistic shift from the richer 2021 and 2022 vintages, offering a more restrained and steely expression. With 100 g/L of residual sugar, it shows vibrant acidity and impressive freshness. The nose is pure and aromatic, with notes of stone fruits and citrus zest, lifted by hints of marmalade. Aged in 20% new oak.

Drink 2029-2035 

## Château Coutet, 1er Cru Classé, Barsac (12x37.5cl)

£187.00 per case In Bond

98.9% Sémillon, 1% Sauvignon, 0.1% Muscadelle

Château Coutet is one of the oldest estates in the Barsac region of Sauternes, with a winemaking legacy dating back to 1643. Covering 38.5 hectares, the estate has long been renowned for producing classic sweet wines of elegance and finesse. Owned by the Baly family, Château Coutet benefits from the technical and commercial expertise of Baron Philippe de Rothschild of Château Mouton Rothschild.

Winemaker Laurier Girardot has produced a superb 2024 vintage from this fine estate. The harvest took place from 19th September to 22nd October, with the finest fruit selected during the fourth and fifth passes between 10th and 16th October. With 132.3 g/l of residual sugar, the wine offers a beautiful balance between richness and freshness. Aromas of white peach and citrus lead into a palate that is vibrant and energetic, with honeyed fruit, bright acidity, and remarkable length. Aged in 25% new oak, this is a refined and expressive Coutet with excellent ageing potential.

Drink 2029-2038. 

# SAUTERNES & BARSAC

## Château Doisy Daëne, 2ème Cru Classé, Barsac (12x37.5cl)

£197.00 per case In Bond

75% Sémillon, 25% Sauvignon

This second growth estate is run by the Durbourdieu family, who took over the property in Barsac in 1924. Now in its fourth generation, Fabrice and Jean-Jacques Durbourdieu continue to make excellent wine which combines rich, honeyed fruit with a lively acidity. The château yielded 15hl/ha and with 146 g/l, this is one of the richest wines of the vintage. Rich and concentrated with its beautiful notes of tangerine, peach and blossom honey yet a lovely purity and minerality and a long persistent finish.

Drink 2030-2038. 

## Château Suduiraut, 1er Cru Classé, Sauternes (12x37.5cl)

£ 257.00 per case In Bond

100% Sémillon

One of the great historic vineyards of Sauternes, Château Suduiraut has a long history dating back to the 15th century. This 91 hectare estate shares borders with the renowned Château d'Yquem. Today, Château Suduiraut is owned by AXA Millésimes, the wine division of the global insurance group, which also owns Château Pichon Baron in Pauillac. Technical Director, Pierre Montégut, who has been at Suduiraut since 2004, is responsible for producing some of the estates' finest wines, known for their intensity, balance, complexity and ageing potential.

The 2024 harvest at Château Suduiraut took place between 19th September and 24th October, with four meticulous passes. The finest fruit was harvested from 2nd October onward. The resulting wine is elegant and refined, beautifully balanced at 13.9% alcohol with 130 g/l of residual sugar. It offers expressive notes of apricot, honeyed fruits, and grapefruit, complemented by subtle hints of vanilla and cedar. The palate shows a pure fruit expression with a mineral, mouth-watering finish. The wine will be aged in 50% new oak barrels and 50% one year old barrels. This will be enjoyable early on yet has the structure and balance to age beautifully.

Drink 2029-2039. 



# BORDEAUX ROUGE

This appellation covers an area of 51,000 hectares of which 44,000 hectares are devoted to the production of red wines. Yields are capped at 55 hectolitres per hectare, and alcohol levels typically range 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 Tour de Luchey, Bordeaux Rouge (6x75cl)**

**£24.00 per case In Bond**

**80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc**

This 25 hectare château, situated in Moulon, to the south of Saint Emilion, is owned and run by the Massé family.

Fermented and aged in cement and stainless steel tanks, with 5% aged in oak barrels. A raspberry fresh bouquet, vibrant and appealing. The palate is filled with succulent cherry fruits which combine with a blueberry freshness and crunchy acidity. The tannins are understated which provides for great everyday drinking!

**Drink 2026-2028** 

# MÉDOC AND HAUT-MÉDOC

The Left Bank of Bordeaux is home to some of the world's most prestigious red wines, defined by gravelly soils, a Cabernet Sauvignon dominant style, and centuries of winemaking tradition. At its heart lies the Médoc, a celebrated stretch running north from the city of Bordeaux along the Gironde estuary.

The Médoc AOC itself covers approximately 5,700 hectares, accounting for about 34.5% of the entire Médoc region. The soils are a mix of gravel and clay-limestone, with frequent pockets of heavy, clay-rich, moisture-retentive soils. Within its broader boundaries lie the great communal appellations of the Left Bank: Margaux, Saint-Julien, Pauillac, and Saint-Estèphe, along with the rising stars of Moulis and Listrac. These communes bottle under their own more prestigious names, often commanding higher prices.

The best examples of Haut-Médoc wines are typically found north of Ludon, just below Margaux. This area includes five Classified Growths, such as the elegant Fifth Growth Château Cantemerle, as well as a wealth of excellent Cru Bourgeois that offer remarkable quality for the price.

## **Château Semonlon, Haut-Médoc (12x75cl)**

**£66.00 per case In Bond**

**60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon**

This is a cracking château situated in the village of Avensan has 7 hectares of vines planted, with 1 hectare of vines situated in the Margaux appellation bordering Château Citran. Olivier Dumora uses 1 and 2 year old barrels from Château Prioure-Lichine for the élevage of this wine that punches hard and is a great entry into the Haut-Médoc appellation. The wine spends 12 months in oak, of which 33% are new and the remainder is aged in tank and blended prior to bottling. This retains the wines natural freshness and precision.

Classic claret aromas of black fruit, cedar, graphite, and green tea, lifted by notes of sweet red cherry and mocha. The 2024 is already open and stylish, with ripe fruit at the core, supple tannins, and a poised, elegant finish.

**Drink 2028-2032** 

## Château Cantemerle, 5ème Cru Classé, Haut-Médoc (6x75cl)

£96.60 per case In Bond

73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

Situated in the commune of Macau, just below the village of Margaux and next to Château La Lagune, this estate remains one of the best value growth clarets. It was the final property to be classified as one of the eighteen 5ème Crus in the 1855 Bordeaux Classification. Since taking over in 2021, director Laure Canu has brought a renewed focus to this 98 hectare estate. The estate's new cellar, set to be the largest in the Médoc, is due for completion this summer, in time for the 2025 harvest. It marks a new phase for the property and underlines its commitment to continued improvement.

Harvest began on 24th September with the Merlot and finished on 7th October with the Cabernet parcels. Yields reached 43 hl/ha, nearly double that of some their neighbours, thanks to the meticulous work carried out in the vineyard throughout the season. The nose is incredibly aromatic and expressive, driven by the Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend. Aromas of ripe blackcurrant and blackberry with notes of graphite and cedar. The palate is juicy and concentrated with a purity of fruit that is balanced with a striking minerality and freshness. The tannins are smooth and silky. This is a well-balanced and elegant Cantemerle, with a long, elegant and fresh finish and will be aged in 35% new oak. A very classic claret at a great price.

Drink 2030-2036 

## MOULIS

Moulis is the smallest of the Médoc appellations, nestled between Margaux and Listrac. Though lesser-known, it produces wines of real character and charm. With a mix of gravel and clay-limestone soils, Moulis offers a balanced style, combining the structure of the Left Bank with a softer, more approachable fruit profile. Quality has been rising steadily in recent years, making it a smart choice for value-conscious Bordeaux lovers.

## Château Mauvesin Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc (6x75cl)

£73.00 per case In Bond

53 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 47% Merlot

Château Mauvesin Barton, a 46 hectare estate in Moulis-en-Médoc, has been owned by the Barton family since 2011. In 2013, Lilian's daughter, Mélanie, became winemaker, reinforcing the family's hands on commitment. The Barton family brings the same level of expertise to Château Mauvesin-Barton as they do to their renowned Saint-Julien estates, Langoa and Léoville Barton, which have been in the family for eight generations.

A soft, fruit-forward nose of raspberry and cherry is lifted by a hint of mint. On the palate, vibrant red fruits are balanced by a bright acidity, which complements the wine's roundness and elegance. The tannins are supple and are shaped by careful oak aging, with varied toast levels from different coopers contributing subtle depth and complexity. The finish lingers with notes of sweet red fruit. Aged in French oak barrels, 1/3 of which are new.

Drink 2029-2036 



# SAINT-ESTÈPHE

Saint-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 Gironde River, joining the Atlantic Ocean. Here the richer soil with higher clay content retains moisture well during summer, so this appellation is well suited to the dryness of hotter years. Wines from the Saint 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 Ormes de Pez (6x75cl)

£96.00 per case In Bond

48% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Franc

Owned by the Cazes family, of Lynch Bages, and benefiting from serious investment in recent years which has seen improvements in both the chais and vineyards. Sitting on the northern edge of the appellation, their 40 hectares of vines stretches across the hamlet of Pez which lie on soils rich in gravel on a subsoil of sand and clay.

The 2024 vintage is a success for Ormes du Pez. A rigorous selection policy in the vineyard led to one of the estate's lowest yields. Harvest took place later than usual, running from 1st October to 10th October. The wine opens with deep, rich aromas of bitter chocolate and ripe black fruits, accented by touches of raspberry, red cherry, and a subtle green leaf note. The palate is dense and tightly structured, framed by dark fruit, fresh acidity, spice, and brooding tannins. Supple tannins and the palate gradually narrows toward a focused, mineral driven finish. Excellent length.

Drink 2030-2036



## Château Phelan Ségur (6x75cl)

£188.00 per case In Bond

68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot

This 70 hectare property consists of 115 plots and is a consistent producer of classic Saint Estèphe, solid, structured and long-lived. It is situated very close to both Château Montrose and Château Calon-Ségur, so in rather good company! Purchased by Xavier Gardinier in 1985 it is now run by his sons, Thierry and Laurent.

Harvested between 30th September and 14th October which at 9 days was the shortest vintage ever, yielding 30hl/ha. Vinified using indigenous yeasts with only very soft extraction and short maceration, the final blend includes 10% vin de presse. Tight and compact, so typical of the appellation, the bouquet offers a wonderful freshness full aromatic wild berry fruit. The palate is structured and firm but shows an impressive equilibrium, lovely black fruits, suave, polished tannins and fresh acidity. A great result from a monstrously challenging vintage. Will be aged in 55% new oak.

Drink 2030-2038



# SAINT-ESTÈPHE

**Château Montrose, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)**

**£507.00 per case In Bond**

**80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 3% 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 Hervé Berland, formerly at Mouton Rothschild, this château continues to compete at the very highest level.

The 2024 vintage marks the second year that all fruit for the Grand Vin has been sourced exclusively from Terrace 4, the most prized parcel of the estate. Harvested between 23rd September and 7th October, yields reached 38hl/ha, which is close to the vineyard's maximum potential, particularly impressive given the season's challenges. The nose is elegant and perfumed with blackberry, cassis, graphite, and fine tobacco leaf. The palate is round and silky with powerful yet polished tannins. This has impressive depth with concentrated cherry and a lovely mineral streak. A wine of great elegance. Aged for 18 months in 60% new oak.

**Drink 2032-2040** 



**CHÂTEAU MONTROSE**

# PAUILLAC

Pauillac is one of Bordeaux's most prestigious appellations, its reputation anchored by the presence of its three First Growths: Château Lafite Rothschild, Château Mouton Rothschild, and Château Latour. These iconic estates, along with fifteen other Cru Classé châteaux, make Pauillac a benchmark for world class Cabernet based wines.

The vineyards lie on deep gravel soils over clay, limestone, and sand, offering excellent drainage and warmth. These conditions produce some of Bordeaux's most powerful and long lived wines, marked by depth, structure, and the classic Pauillac notes of blackcurrant, cedar, and graphite.

**Château Batailley, 5ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)**  
**ALSO AVAILABLE IN MARIE JEANNE BOTTLES (2x225cl)**

**£150.00 per case In Bond**  
**£199.00 per case In Bond**

**81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot**

This year, Château Batailley celebrates 100 years under the ownership of the Borie family. A 5th Grand Cru Classé of 1855, Château Batailley is the flagship of the Castéja family and Borie-Manoux. One of the oldest estates in the Médoc, its name recalls a 1452 battle during the Hundred Years' War, when the French reclaimed nearby Château Latour from the English, a turning point in Aquitaine's history. Vines were planted soon after on this storied, blood soaked land.

The 2024 harvest began on 15th September and continued until 8th October, yielding a modest 30 hl/ha. The nose opens with an expressive bouquet of fresh cassis and plum. The palate is vibrant with graphite notes and a touch of forest floor adding depth and complexity. With polished tannins, this is well balanced, with a long, refined finish. The wine will be aged in 57% new oak, contributing further structure and finesse.

**Drink 2030-2040** 

**In celebration of its centenary, Château Batailley will also release a limited number of bottles in the rare Marie-Jeanne format of three 75cl bottles (2.25litres). Each case contains 2 bottles.**

**Château Clerc Milon, 5ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)**

**£275.00 per case In Bond**

**66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 1% Carmenère, 1% Petit Verdot**

Situated at the northern edge of Pauillac, close to the first growths of Lafite and Mouton Rothschild, with a similar clay and gravel soil structure, the 41 hectares of vines are planted to all 5 Bordeaux red varieties. Château Clerc Milon is part of the Mouton Rothschild stable and made by the same winemaking team.

In 2024, Clerc Milon faced significant challenges in the vineyard, with mildew affecting several plots and hail further reducing yields to approximately 34 hl/ha. Despite this, the wine is impressively concentrated, showing a deep, dense colour and an expressive nose of ripe black fruits, accented by hints of raspberry and prune. On the palate, it offers a polished and powerful structure, with firm yet well-integrated tannins balanced by vibrant acidity and the natural sweetness of the fruit. The profile is sleek and elegant, with layers of blackcurrant, cassis, spice, and a touch of vanilla oak. The wine is aged for 18 months in 55% new oak. Refined, harmonious, and full of character, this is a beautifully composed Pauillac with excellent ageing potential.

**Drink 2032-2042** 



# PAUILLAC

## Château Lynch Bages, 5ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£ 360.00 per case In Bond

73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 7% 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. While it is classified a 5th growth it is built like a super second and competes with them when it comes to quality and ageability.

Château Lynch-Bages was affected by mildew this vintage, prompting Jean-Charles Cazes to enforce a rigorous selection policy, resulting in a yield of just 29 hl/ha, the lowest since 1991. Known for producing one of Pauillac's most powerful and muscular wines, Château Lynch-Bages in 2024 still carries the hallmark Pauillac character, yet it also expresses an elegance, refined structure, and poise. The nose is intense with food expression of fruit, with blackcurrant, cassis, raspberry and pomegranate, exuding spice notes and integrated sweet oak. The tannins are powerful and brooding, but not overly dominant, and the seamless acidity and freshness lifts the wine and gives it real energy and intensity. Will be aged in 75% new oak.

Drink 2032-2040



## Château Pontet Canet, 5ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£ 360.00 per case In Bond

52 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 43 % Merlot, 4 % Petit Verdot, 1 % Cabernet Franc

Alfred Tesseron has passionately built this 81 hectare estate over many years to the pinnacle of Bordeaux winemaking. Farmed organically, including working the vineyards by horse, Pontet-Canet is punching up there with the very best.

The team at Château Pontet-Canet chose to hold off harvesting in order to achieve optimal ripeness, starting a week later than their neighbours. The Merlot harvest began on 26th September and finished with the final Cabernet parcels on 11th October. Their patience paid off as the resulting wine is impressively ripe, yet it retains the freshness and elegance that technical director Mathieu Bessonnet has long pursued. Aged in 50% new oak, 35% concrete amphorae and 15% one year old oak. On the nose, ripe cassis and blackcurrant, layered with hints of cocoa. The palate is rich and concentrated, with a creamy texture beautifully balanced by the purity of the fruit and an excellent mineral freshness. Dense and layered, the wine carries impressive weight and structure, especially for the vintage, with underlying notes of cedar adding complexity. Silky tannins and a long, persistent finish. A standout wine this vintage.

Drink 2030-2042



## Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£ 531.00 per case In Bond

83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc

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 recently installed winery is quite magnificent.

Harvest took place from 22nd September through to 9th October, with low yields of around 30hl/ha and 52% of the crop going into the grand vin. Lighter extraction was used for this vintage and the result is an impressively balanced Pichon Comtesse. Nicolas Glumineau increased the percentage of press wine to 15% due to the high quality of the cabernet sauvignon. This is one of the stars of the vintage – refined, classic and complex. Rich and refined black and red fruits and a touch of cedar on the nose. The palate is rich with layers of cherry, cassis and vanilla. Spice aplenty, integrated with ripe tannins, concentrated yet with a lovely elegance and poise. Fresh acidity supports throughout. Will be aged in 66% new oak.

Drink 2030-2042



# PAUILLAC

## Château Mouton Rothschild, 1er Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£1,521.00 per case In Bond

93% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot

Elevated to First Growth status in 1973, Château Mouton Rothschild is perhaps as celebrated for its tradition of commissioning renowned artists to design its labels as it is for the wine itself. Under the guidance of technical director Jean-Emmanuel Danjoy, Mouton is currently at the top of its game, fully justifying its place at the pinnacle of the Bordeaux hierarchy. Remarkably, it remains the only First Growth still owned by the same family since the 1855 classification, and it continues to be one of the world's most sought after wines.

The 2024 vintage was harvested between 23rd September and 5th October, with only 44.5% of the crop selected for the Grand Vin. The blend is dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, contributing to a wine of striking structure and depth, essential for a vintage considered lighter in overall weight. The wine will be aged entirely in new oak. This is a powerfully concentrated Mouton, with intense cassis on the nose, hints of violet, and a touch of graphite. On the palate, it is dense and opulent, with layered fruit, velvety tannins, and a long, refined finish. A standout of the 2024 vintage.

Drink 2033-2045



## Château Lafite Rothschild, 1er Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£1,713.00 per case In Bond

96% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot

One of the original "First Growth" Clarets, Château Lafite is one of the most famous names in the world of wine. Since 2015, winemaking has been guided by the steady hand of Eric Kohler, and the results have been nothing short of magnificent.

The 2024 vintage is the first vintage to be officially certified as organic. The harvest, which ran from 23rd September to 7th October, was notably short, making it the shortest harvest on record for the château. All grapes were hand harvested, with each parcel vinified separately. With a healthy yield of 32 hl/ha, gentle extractions and selective pressings were used, with 16% press wine included in the final blend. In the end, only 1/3 of the total crop will be used for the Grand Vin.

As is typical of Lafite, the wine features a high proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon, and the result is stunning. It opens with exuberant notes of black fruits, violets and graphite on the nose showcasing remarkable purity and freshness. Medium-bodied, with a beautiful texture and silky, harmonious tannins it has a mineral edge, delivering delicacy and finesse. The finish is long and pure with an impressive persistence. Aged in 50% new oak, this vintage captures the quintessential elegance Lafite is known for. Unsurprisingly, it stands among the finest wines produced in Pauillac this year.



CHATEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

# SAINT JULIEN

The smallest producer among the four main Haut-Médoc communes, it nevertheless boasts some of the finest châteaux, including several Cru Bourgeois estates that rival the quality of the 1855 Classification. The terroir is characterised by gravelly soils over a subsoil of sandstone and clay, providing excellent drainage that ensures the appellation thrives even in wetter years. The wines tend to be a little smoother, and more elegant than their Pauillac neighbours, often drinking a little earlier while still offering the classic typicity of Bordeaux.

## Château Langoa Barton, 3ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£157.00 per case In Bond

52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc

For many years now, this château has produced some of the finest value claret on the left bank – what we like to call “proper claret”. The 20 hectare estate is the ‘sister’ to Léoville-Barton and the grape varieties and wine-making methods are similar for both estates.

Harvested between 24th September and 5th October with a yield of 30hl/ha and aged in 60% new oak for 18 months. Fresh and fragrant, there is a lovely whiff of prune and freshly picked blackberries. Tightly knit and medium weight, there is a core of red and black fruits with finely tuned tannins and a dose of cedar that lends a savoury edge. A punchy percentage of Merlot provides a bouncy boost of plum fruit. A beautifully balanced, stylish wine.

Drink 2030-2044 

## Château Talbot, 4ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£ 194.00 per case In Bond

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 5% 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. The vineyard, a single 110-hectare block planted on deep alluvial gravel and siltstone soils stretching to the banks of the Gironde, offers an ideal terroir for producing structured, age worthy wines.

2024 was a major success for Talbot. While many neighbouring estates struggled with mildew, Talbot's vines were far less affected, thanks to highly effective and timely vineyard management. As a result, they achieved an impressive yield of 39hl/ha, well above the average for the appellation. A light green harvest in August helped concentrate the fruit, setting the stage for a wine of both structure and finesse.

The 2024 vintage opens with an elegant and expressive nose. Ripe blackcurrant and sweet cherry are layered with notes of graphite and green leaf, followed by subtle undertones of liquorice and coffee. This is a softly opulent, ripe and expressive claret with a lovely mouthfeel, balanced by freshness and acidity that really livens up the back palate. An elegant and approachable Saint-Julien, with a polished texture and finely balanced fruit. Will be aged in 60% new oak. Another strong vintage from a consistently reliable château.

Drink 2030-2040 



# SAINT JULIEN

**Château Léoville-Barton, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)**

**£288.00 per case In Bond**

**92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc**

This château is always one of the most popular with our En Primeur clients, 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 hectare. Harvested between 24th September and 5th October with a yield of 30hl/ha and aged in 60% new oak for 18 months. To be bottled in June 2026. Lilian commented that “2024 was an expensive year to make wine..... with a lot of weekend working. Mildew doesn't wait for Monday!”

This hard work has clearly paid off with a stunning wine that is notably one of the finest wines of the vintage. Aromas of blackberry and plum dominate a fragrant bouquet that suggests both power and purity. The palate is tight, fresh and compact, offering both depth and elegance. There is an impressive black fruit content with notes of pencil lead, forest floor and touch of graphite minerality. Will be aged in 60% new oak barrels. Extremely well balanced, this is a classic Léoville-Barton.

**Drink 2032 – 2045** 



**CHATEAU LÉOVILLE-BARTON**

# SAINT JULIEN

## Château Beychevelle 4ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£347.00 per case In Bond

55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Château Beychevelle is one of the most beautiful châteaux of the Médoc, with its new winery proudly visible as you drive past. With estates covers 250 hectares with 90 hectares planted with vines. Extremely popular throughout the world.

Harvest took place from 24th September and 9th October, and the château was able to yield an impressive 43hl/ha. The nose is fresh and expressive, with pure notes of raspberry and strawberry. On the palate, there is excellent depth, with ripe blackcurrant, cedar, and a vibrant acidity that brings precision and energy. The tannins are smooth and supple, contributing to an overall impression of elegance and finesse. The wine will be aged in 70% new oak, adding further structure and complexity.

Drink 2030-2040 

## Château Ducru-Beaucaillou 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£528.00 per case In Bond

86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot

This 49 hectare estate has recently been in outstanding form firmly upholding its reputation as a true ‘Super Second Growth’. With origins dating back to the 13th century, Château Ducru-Beaucaillou has been under the stewardship of the Borie family since 1941. Under the dynamic leadership of Bruno Borie, the estate has undergone a remarkable transformation. Quality has risen significantly, while production has been deliberately reduced, nearly halved since 2003, in a pursuit of ever-greater precision and excellence.

The harvest began on 23rd September with the Merlots and ended on 8th October. Despite historically low yields (20-25 hl/ha), meticulous selection ensured only the healthiest, perfectly ripe berries made it into the final blend, resulting in a wine of great concentration. The bouquet is dreamy and intense, with layers of back fruits, violet and graphite. On the palate, it is rich and vibrant with dark fruits and firm, ripe tannins. This is a multi-layered wine that is balanced by an energetic and fragrant freshness. Will be aged for 18 months in 100% new oak.

Drink 2031-2042 

## Château Léoville-Las-Cases, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£573.00 per cases In Bond

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc, 5% Merlot

Château Léoville-Las Cases is widely regarded as one of the finest “Super Seconds” of the Médoc, so exceptional, in fact, that many, including the estate itself, consider it worthy of First Growth status. Located near the boundary between Saint-Julien and Pauillac, it sits adjacent to Château Latour. As a result, its character often leans as much toward Pauillac as it does its own appellation, Saint-Julien.

The 2023 harvest ran from 30 September to 9 October, yielding 31 hl/ha, with 6.3% press wine included in the final blend. Jean-Hubert Delon has produced a wine of typical Las Cases structure and intensity, despite the challenges of the vintage. The nose is regal and vivid, full of savoury spice, toast, and dense black fruit. Cassis, violet, graphite and menthol, with toasted spice on the palate, showing impressive concentration, fine texture, and taut energy. The tannins are firm and ripe, carrying through to a long, fresh finish. It will be aged in 75% new oak. A powerful, classic Las Cases and one of the standout wines of the year.

Drink 2032-2044 

# MARGAUX

This is the largest commune in the Médoc, known for its lighter, gravelly soils yield some of the most sensual and elegant wines of the Médoc, the complete opposite of Pauillac. The commune is the most southerly of Médoc's appellations and it encompasses the neighbouring villages of Cantenac, Arsac, Labarde, and Soussans. Margaux is also the most represented appellation in the 1855 Classification, with more classified estates than any of its Médoc peers.

## Château Angludet (6x75cl)

£120.00 per case In Bond

59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot

Owned by the Sichel family and managed since 1989 by Ben, the youngest of the Sichel brothers, this property is blessed with the perfect conditions for producing splendidly consistent wines. The sandy, gravelly soils provide excellent natural drainage, enhancing the concentration of the fruit. Now farmed biodynamically, Château Angludet is producing exceptional wines year after year. The château sits on 30 hectares of deep gravel soils in the southern part of the Margaux appellation, near the renowned Châteaux Brane Cantenac and Du Tertre. In 2024, the difference between picking dates was vital, to benefit from warm sunshine after the late September rain. In 2024, Ben Sichel waited, and the result is impressive.

This is a ripe, expressive, and elegant Margaux, capturing the quintessential fruit profile and stature that Ben Sichel strives for in his wines. The colour is a deep purple, with a medium intensity. On the palate, the wine is laced with ripe blackcurrant, red cherry, and a beautifully integrated spice note, which complements its vibrant freshness and elegant tannin structure. The finish is a harmonious blend of bittersweet chocolate and subtle vanilla oak. 40% of the blend will be aged in 700 litre clay amphorae, with the remainder aged in oak barriques, 35% of which are new.

Drink 2030 – 2037 

## Château Cantenac Brown, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£171.00 per case In Bond

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27.5% Merlot, 1.5% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

This château, situated at the western boundary of the Margaux appellation with 62 hectares under vine, was purchased by Tristan Le Lous and his family in 2019. They immediately embarked on a massive investment in a new 5000 m<sup>2</sup> eco-winery (first used with the 2023 vintage) built entirely of raw earth, guaranteeing thermal inertia and the perfect humidity for ageing thanks to the power of the earth, along with the acquisition of a further 9.5 ha of vines.

Harvested between 25th September and 12th October with a yield of 32hl/ha and 52% of the crop allocated to the Grand Vin. The vinification was carried out in 70 stainless steel tanks ranging in size from 50 – 120 hectolitres, followed by ageing in 60% new oak barrels.

A vibrant and intense bouquet of fresh blackberry and stewed prune offers immediate intrigue, and the palate follows through with an impressive core of juicy black and red fruits, underlying liquorice and notes of cedar wood. Stylish and finely balanced this is an impressive wine that will provide very enjoyable early drinking.

Drink 2029 – 2040 



CHÂTEAU ANGLUDET

# MARGAUX

## Château Brane Cantenac, 2ème Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£213.00 per case In Bond

77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc

The vineyards of Château Brane-Cantenac lie to the west of the village of Cantenac, on 72 hectares of fine gravel and clay that form the renowned Brane plateau, an area known for producing wines of remarkable finesse and longevity. Proprietor Henri Lurton has improved the quality in the vines, regrafting previously planted Merlot to high quality Cabernet Sauvignon.

The 2024 vintage is the first to be vinified in the estate's brand new cellar and vat room and the results are impressive. Harvested relatively early, between 17th September and 7th October, this vintage reflects careful selection. Henri Lurton made the decision to exclude Carménère and Petit Verdot from the grand vin due to their lack of maturity. The final blend includes 11% press wine and will be aged in 80% new oak, slightly less than in previous years.

The nose is expressive and enticing, with layers of ripe blueberry, cherry, damson and a subtle touch of vanilla. On the palate, the wine shows lovely density and structure, lifted by remarkable freshness. Supple tannins provide balance to the sweet, juicy fruit, resulting in an elegant wine. This is a refined Brane - Cantenac that will be approachable young but also promises excellent ageing potential.

Drink 2030 – 2042 

## Château Palmer, 3ème Cru Classé, (6x75cl)

£950.00 per case In Bond

59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot

After the First Growths this is traditionally one of the highest performing châteaux and is always in high demand. Winemaker Thomas Duroux has overseen the château's move to 100% biodynamic farming, a journey that began back in 2008 with certification in 2014.

Low yields of just 22hl/ha and a rigorous selection have delivered an impressive wine. The nose is precise with fresh blackcurrant, red plum and cassis, followed by violets and a touch of tobacco. The palate is concentrated, packed with blackberry fruit, liquorice, cedar and spice. The tannins are velvety, giving the wine both charm and structure. Will be aged for 12 months in 50% new French oak and then matured in 30hl oak foudres. A very serious and elegant wine.

Drink 2030 – 2038 

## Château Margaux, 1er Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£1,620.00 per case In Bond

59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot

Château Margaux, a Premier Grand Cru Classé Bordeaux, is one of the most famous wines in the world. For over five centuries, the estate has been shaped by generations of dedicated vineyard workers, harvesters, cellar masters, coopers, and many other craftsmen, each contributing to its legacy. Under the stewardship of owners deeply committed to preserving its heritage, the château continues to produce wines of exceptional character.

The 2024 vintage was harvested between 23rd September and 8th October, with yields kept low at 30hl/ha due to rigorous selection. The grand vin represents just 46% of the total crop, and the blend leans heavily on Cabernet Sauvignon, with a notably reduced proportion of Merlot this year.

Winemaker Philippe Bascaules has produced a refined and expressive Margaux. The bouquet is vibrant and aromatic, with notes of cassis, raspberry, black cherry, and violet. On the palate, the wine shows remarkable concentration with a vivid freshness and a distinctive mineral edge. The tannins are silky and well-integrated, offering a seamless texture that leads into a long, elegant finish.

Drink 2032 – 2043 



# PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

Geographically, this region extends southeast from the Haut-Médoc. Urban expansion from the city of Bordeaux has led to the loss of many northern vineyards, but the area remains a source of both notable red and white wines, though production has increasingly favoured reds over the past two decades. Formerly known simply as Graves, the region was officially divided in 1996 into two appellations: Graves and Pessac-Léognan. The latter, situated in the northern part, is considered the finest section and is home to the majority of the Grands Crus.

## **Château de Fieuzal, Cru Classé (6x75cl)**

**£120.00 per case In Bond**

**45% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot**

The château was acquired in 2001 by Irish businessman and philanthropist, Lochlann Quinn, who has invested heavily whilst also increasing the vineyard holdings, to become one of the larger Classified Growths within the Pessac-Léognan appellation.

Winemaker Stephen Carrier, working alongside consultant Thomas Duclos, has produced a wine full of vibrant fruit. Harvested between September 20th and October 11th, beginning with Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine is the result of low yields (28 hl/ha) and meticulous vinification, including a gentle extraction and extended maceration of 35–40 days and then aged in 30% new oak. The bouquet displays a vibrant fresh red fruit with notes of liquorice and tobacco. The palate is stylish and elegant, with fine-grained, polished tannins and a touch of sweet oak.

**Drink 2029 – 2038** 

## **Château Olivier, Cru Classé (6x75cl)**

**£121.00 per case In Bond**

**49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46% 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.

The 2024 marks the first vintage to be certified organic and the château obtained a healthy yield of 40hl/ha. Harvest took place from 21st September until 4th October and the wine will be aged in 35% new oak as well a small proportion of glass Wine Globes. Aromas of blackcurrant, cedar, and cocoa lead to a palate rich with ripe cherries. The tannins are smooth and well integrated, perfectly balanced by a bright acidity.

**Drink 2028 – 2035** 

## **Château Larrivet Haut Brion (6x75cl)**

**£128.00 per case In Bond**

**62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc**

Owned by the Gervoson family since 1987, this 75 hectare estate lies on gravel soils near Château Haut-Bailly and is renowned for producing high quality red and white wines.

The 2023 harvest took place between 13th September and 1st October, yielding 41 hl/ha. Aged in 50% new oak, the wine is bold and structured, packed with intense black fruits, graphite minerality, and layered with cedar and tobacco, which lend a savoury complexity. The finish is notably long, precise, and persistent. A strong result in this vintage.

**Drink 2030 – 2039** 

# SATELLITE SAINT-EMILION

Situated just to the north and northeast of Saint-Emilion are four separate appellations known as the 'Saint-Emilion satellites'. They are Lussac-Saint-Emilion, Montagne-Saint-Emilion, Puisseguin-Saint-Emilion, and Saint-Georges-Saint-Emilion. Here the temperatures are slightly cooler than in Saint-Emilion as the area lies further from the moderating influence of the Dordogne River, resulting in a slightly later harvest. These appellations offer excellent value for money, particularly in top vintages.

## Château Corbin, Montagne Saint-Emilion (6x75cl)

£42.00 per case In Bond

80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Malbec

A hidden jewel offering some of the finest value for money on the Right Bank. Overlooking both Cheval Blanc and Pétrus, this is a beautifully located, family owned 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 the property has 23 hectares of vines that surround the Château. The 2024 vintage is the 20th under the energetic Jacques Rambaud.

Aged in old oak (no new oak at all in 2024) for 10-11 months, this wine is a testament to Jacques's winemaking. There are no hard edges at all, and the palate is voluminous, with ripe blackberry and a hint of liquorice, beautifully balanced by a crunchy red fruit acidity. This wine is a wonderful representation of the terroir and character of Montagne-Saint-Emilion. What great value!

Drink 2027 – 2032



# SAINT-EMILION

Located on the right bank of Bordeaux, this large appellation is where the Merlot grape dominates on the clay and limestone soils. The resulting wines are rich, plush, and seductive.

Saint-Émilion was not included in the historic 1855 Classification. Instead, its own classification was established in 1954 and, unlike its Left Bank counterpart, is revised regularly to reflect evolving quality and performance.

## Château Grand Mayne, Saint-Emilion Grand Cru (6x75cl)

£145.00 per case In Bond

70% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc

Located north-west of the town of Saint-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.

The harvest started with the Merlot on the 10th September, finishing with the Cabernet Franc on 10th October with a yield of 30hl/ha. Aged in 40% new oak.

Once again, this château is one of the appellation's best performers, showing an admirable consistency of form. Deep ruby in colour, the bouquet offers notes of fried fruits and fig along with a delectable red fruit freshness. The palate is medium bodied, finely structured and compact, juicy red fruit dominant and succulent on the finish. Bravo!

Drink 2029 – 2036



**Château Soutard, Saint-Emilion Grand Cru (6x75cl)****£150.00 per case In Bond****48% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Malbec**

Situated on the northern side of Saint-Emilion, its 35 hectares of vines are planted on 3 differing soils and aspects, with a unique limestone and very thin soil at the top of the slope, clay and broken limestone mid slope and a sandier, more friable soil at the bottom, all cared for organically with sustainable viticulture.

This is a magnificent Soutard, richly expressive, dense, and yet elegant. It offers powerful notes of dark chocolate, raspberry coulis, red and black cherry, along with a generous touch of spice. The palate is tightly knit and polished, with oak that supports the wine without dominating. This is a wine of elegance, finesse, and balance. Will be aged for in 50% in new oak barrels and 25% in large oak vats.

**Drink 2029 – 2037** **2024 Château Pavie Macquin, Saint-Emilion Grand Cru (6x75cl)****£213.00 per case In Bond****84% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon**

Pavie Macquin is located just east of the town of Saint-Émilion, close to the town's outer edge and positioned between Troplong Mondot and TrotteVieille. The estate covers 13.5 hectares, with vines planted on thick clay and fragmented limestone soils. These soils offer both excellent drainage and strong water retention, which helps during warmer vintages. This combination has helped build Pavie Macquin's reputation for producing elegant and powerful wines with strong concentration, even in more restrained vintages like 2024. For this vintage, they used 100% whole bunch fermentation and harvested only from the oldest sections of the vineyard, with vines around 30 to 40 years old.

With a yield of 42 hl/ha, the 2024 vintage clearly demonstrates how Pavie Macquin's favourable aspect, soil, and winemaking techniques helped overcome the cool and wet conditions. This vintage is a success. The wine displays beautiful depth and richness, combining black fruit and mocha with spicy notes and powerful tannins. The sweet oak is integrated which adds a freshness and balance. It is elegant yet powerful, with a muscular structure that wraps ripe fruit alongside hints of coffee and bitter chocolate. The finish is long, warm, and generously opulent. Will be aged in 50% new oak.

**Drink 2030 – 2039** 

# SAINT-EMILION

## Château Canon, Saint-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£426.00 per case In Bond

78% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc

Since Chanel took over in 1996, the vineyard at Canon has undergone significant restructuring, and the newer plantings are now fully mature. Located just southwest of Saint-Émilion, the estate has 34 hectares under vine, with 24 hectares used for the grand vin.

The 2024 vintage was a major success for Canon. It marks the estate's first organically certified vintage and brought in a healthy yield of 44 hl/ha, well above the appellation average. Harvest took place in a series of dry weather windows between 19th September and 9th October. It is big, rich, and well balanced, with layers of ripe black and red fruits complemented by coffee, mocha, and hints of cedar and graphite. Freshness keeps the ripeness in check while balancing firm tannins, creating a full but not overpowering structure. Elegant and complex, this standout wine will be aged in 49% new oak and 6% casks.

Drink 2030 – 2042 

## Château Troplong Mondot, Saint-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£432.00 per case In Bond

85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc

Situated at the highest point of Saint-Émilion, 110 metres above sea level, the estate benefits from a cooler microclimate than the rest of the appellation, an advantage that contributes to the character of its wines. Its rising reputation was formally recognised in 2006 with a promotion to Premier Grand Cru Classé. The estate's origins date back to the late 1800s and it remained under family ownership for over a century before being acquired in 2017 by the French insurance group SCOR. That same year marked the arrival of Aymeric de Gironde, who, together with renowned oenologist Thomas Duclos, has since guided the estate in a new direction, producing a more refined, classic, and pure expression of Saint-Emilion.

Although Troplong Mondot was traditionally among the last estates to begin harvest, it led the way in 2024, starting on 20th September and had finished by 11th October. The team applied exceptionally rigorous sorting, reducing yields from 50hl/ha to just 35hl/ha. The nose is pronounced and expressive, with layered aromas of cassis, ripe blackberry with herbal notes. The palate is concentrated and juicy, with ripe, velvety tannins and a creamy texture. Balanced and powerful, yet elegant and polished. Will be aged in 55% new oak, 26% 20hl foudres and 19% one-year-old barrels.

Drink 2030 – 2040 



# SAINT-EMILION

## Château Valandraud, Saint-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé (6x75cl)

£463.00 per case In Bond

85% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc

In 1989, Jean-Luc Thunevin and his wife Murielle Andraud purchased a 0.6 hectare plot in Saint-Émilion. Just two years later, they released their first commercial vintage, marking the beginning of their remarkable winemaking journey. Today, the estate spans 8.8 hectares, and the wines are produced through a combination of traditional, modern techniques, and innovative practices. A pioneer in the garage wine movement, Château Valandraud was promoted to Saint-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé status in 2012 and renewed in 2022.

The 2024 Valandraud is the first vintage to include grapes from a parcel just in front of the château. One of the last estates to begin harvest, picking took place from 26th September until 7th October, with yields of 40hl/ha. The wine shows a deep, dark colour and opens with aromas of ripe cassis, dark berries, graphite, and a touch of spicy oak. The palate is full bodied, rich, and concentrated, with impressive mid palate weight. Juicy blackcurrant, fine tannins, and a long, polished finish. Will be aged in 100% new oak.

Drink 2030 – 2038 

## Château Cheval Blanc, Saint-Emilion (6x75cl)

£1,650.00 per case In Bond

48% Cabernet Franc, 46% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon

Cheval Blanc is one of the great names of Bordeaux and unquestionably the most renowned château in Saint-Émilion. Its 39 hectares of vineyards are located on the border with Pomerol, yet the wine is markedly different due to the unusually high proportion of Cabernet Franc in the blend. Vinification takes place in a striking and modern winery that reflects the estate's commitment to precision and excellence. The vineyard is overseen by a highly skilled team, with technical director Pierre-Olivier Clouet leading operations under the guidance of Pierre Lurton.

This year, Cheval Blanc has produced one of the most serious wines of the vintage. Of the estate's 56 vineyard parcels, only 37 were selected for the grand vin, meaning 34% of the crop to ensure optimal quality. Although the initial yield was 39 hl/ha, approximately one third of the harvest was discarded during an intensive sorting process that included the use of a densimetric table to select only the ripest and healthiest grapes leading to a final yield of 28 hl/ha. The wine will be aged in 100 % new oak barrels.

The colour is deep and inky and the nose is precise and aromatic with aromas of violets, red berries, black cherry, and ripe blackcurrant. The palate is rich and well balanced, with layers of vibrant fruit, notes of liquorice, graphite, and a distinctive mineral and saline edge that brings energy and definition. The tannins are beautifully integrated, silky and round, supporting a long, elegant finish that lingers with sweet fruit and subtle spice. A wine of precision and purity.

Drink 2030 – 2040 



# LALANDE DE POMEROL

Just north of Pomerol, Lalande-de-Pomerol offers great bang for your buck. Sharing similar gravel and clay soils to Pomerol, though lighter on the signature blue clay, it produces Merlot driven wines that are juicy, approachable, and smooth. While it lacks Pomerol's fame, it more than makes up for it with generous, crowd-pleasing character, perfect for those looking for quality.

## Château Siaurac (12x75cl)

£132.00 per case In Bond

53% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, 17% Malbec

This 46 hectare estate lies just north of the Pomerol plateau and was acquired in 2020 by the Suravenir insurance group, also owners of Château Calon Ségur. Harvest took place from 21st September to 4th October, resulting in an aromatic wine with vibrant notes of redcurrant and cranberry. The palate is fresh and balanced, showing crunchy raspberry and blackberry fruit supported by firm tannins. The wine will be aged in a combination of French oak barrels, cement vats, and amphorae.

Drink 2028 – 2032 



CHÂTEAU SIAURAC

# POMEROL

Pomerol is the smallest of Bordeaux's major appellations, covering just 800 hectares within a compact area measuring roughly 3 by 4 kilometers. Despite its modest size, it is home to around 150 châteaux and produces some of the most sought-after wines in the world. Uniquely among Bordeaux's top regions, Pomerol has no official classification system. Its distinctive blue clay soils contribute to wines that are richly textured, sensual, and deeply alluring.

## Château Bonalgue (6x75cl)

£117.00 per case In Bond

93% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc

Originally built by one of Napoleon's officers on his return from the Egyptian campaign over 200 years ago this property is now owned by the Bourotte family. This excellent property covers 7 hectares with an ideal exposure, producing classic Pomerol.

Harvested between 23rd September and 4th October with yields of 35hl/ha. After 100% destemming, fermentation is carried out plot by plot, in small stainless and cement vats with manual pumping over and punching of the caps. The malolactic fermentation took place in barrel. Aged for 18 months in fine grained French oak barrels of which 40% are new.

A lovely intense blackcurrant bouquet with notes of cedar oak. The mouthfeel is delicious, brimming with black fruit concentration, soft ripe tannins and a lick of spice, enhanced by a crunchy red fruit acidity. The tannin structure is defined and in check, providing fine support. A really fine example of technical winemaking in a challenging vintage.

Drink 2029 – 2038 

## Clos du Clocher (6x75cl)

£222.00 per case In Bond

75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc

The exposure of this property is ideal. This superb 4.6 hectare estate lies just in front of the chapel, only 200 metres from Vieux Château Certan and 300 metres from Château Pétrus. Clos de Clocher benefits from soils rich in blue clay. Long considered a rising star by critics, the château has produced a super wine in 2024. The 2024 is a special year for the château as it celebrates 100 years since Jean-Baptiste Bourotte's father purchased the first plot in front of the church. It is also the château's first officially certified organic vintage.

Harvested between 27th September and 7th October, the yield reached 34hl/ha. The wine is deeply coloured, almost inky, with an intense bouquet of ripe black cherry, blackberry, violet, chocolate and spice. The palate is stylish, with plush, round tannins and layers of sweet ripe black cherry and mocha. The tannins are finely grained, especially on the finish, offering excellent support to the ripe fruit and well integrated oak. The wine remains fresh and vibrant throughout.

Drink 2030 – 2040 

# POMEROL

## Château Clinet (6x75cl)

£264.00 per case In Bond

80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon

This family-owned estate has been under the leadership of Ronan Laborde for over twenty years. Château Clinet is home to some of the oldest vineyards in Pomerol, dating back to 1595, and its vineyards rank among the highest in the appellation. The Laborde family purchased the estate in 1999, and since then, their focus has been on enhancing the quality of the wines through higher-density replanting and extensive renovations of the winery.

The 2024 harvest began with the Merlot on 23rd September and finished with the Cabernet Sauvignon on 4th October, yielding 38hl/ha. With a large proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon, it is one of the denser wines of the vintage. It offers complex aromas of blackcurrant, blackberry, cedar, and subtle hints of pencil shavings. Aged 60% in new oak, the oak is well-integrated and is complemented by smooth tannins and a rich, vibrant character with a notably fresh finish.

Drink 2030 – 2039 

## Château Le Gay (6x75cl)

£354.00 per case In Bond

81% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc

This 6.50 hectare estate is situated to the north of the Pomerol plateau and is in a rich seam of form in recent vintages. The château was purchased by the Parent family in 2002, and since then, significant changes have taken place, including vineyard replanting, cellar renovations, and adjustments to the winemaking process.

Harvesting took place between 19th and 27th September, yielding 16 hl/ha. The wine offers an aromatic nose with intense notes of violets, cherry, blackcurrant, cocoa, and a subtle hint of liquorice. It is supported by fine grained tannins, vibrant freshness, and ripe fruit which carry through to the finish.

Drink 2030 – 2037 







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01482 638899 - [cellardoor@houseoftownend.co.uk](mailto:cellardoor@houseoftownend.co.uk)  
[www.houseoftownend.com](http://www.houseoftownend.com)