

RICHARD KIHLL LTD

Fine Wine Shippers and Brokers

Established 1969

Bordeaux 2022 En Primeur

Our Full Offer



The famous Tour de Saint-Lambert at tower at Château Latour, built in the 1620s on the site of the original 14th Century fortified tower.

Offered en primeur, due to land in the UK in Spring 2025.

Priced per case of a dozen, six or three bottles as listed, in bond, excluding UK duty, VAT and onward delivery, payable at the prevailing rate on release from bond. Prices herein supersede any previously published prices. Stock subject to availability, E&OE.

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*Welcome to our Bordeaux 2022 en primeur offer. This year, we have offered over one hundred wines, the majority of which you will find below, including some which have sold out just as we go to print. For reasons of space, we have focused on our top recommendations from the vintage. We pride ourselves on giving a wealth of information about each châteaux, you will find full details and commentary online, our **Bordeaux 2022 En Primeur homepage**.*

Introduction to the 2022 Bordeaux vintage

The 2022 Bordeaux vintage is excellent in quality. With bottle age, many of the wines may turn out to be the best-ever from their estates. The red wines have full, powerful tannins and moderately high alcohol levels, but on the palate, they are bursting with energy and freshness, with fine acidity and complex minerality. Brilliant wines were made on both sides of the Gironde. Quality was high in general, but the wines are not uniformly outstanding, with terroir and human decision making both important.

Whilst many châteaux have released at a 20-30% premium on last year, but we still think there are lots that offer excellent value, considering their absolute quality compared to their peers and to previous vintages. There are second wines being made today that equal the grands vins of twenty, or possibly even ten years ago. The best 2022-vintage wines are also likely to be sought-after in future years and serious collectors will want them in their cellars.

The Growing Season

The extreme heat in 2022 led to comparisons with the 2003 growing season, but stylistically, the '22s have almost nothing in common with that vintage. The heat was manifested in the wildfires that affected over 26,000 hectares in the Gironde in August. We were all expecting big, heavy wines with lots of 'solar' influence. When the first reports arrived of fresh, energetic reds with great balance, we were a little sceptical and it wasn't until we arrived at the end of April to taste that we could quite believe how they had turned out.

2022 was an exceptionally dry year, although the groundwater levels were high at the outset, after decent winter rainfall. In the critical growing season (May-Sep), just 278mm of rain fell, 30% less than in 2019 and around 50% less than in '20. The dry conditions produced small, thick-skinned berries with far less juice than usual. As one winemaker put it, usually they expect 2/3rds juice to 1/3rd skins and pulp, whereas this year it was the other way round. Consequently, the harvest was smaller.

At Cheval Blanc and several other wineries, we learnt that, although there were extremes of heat in 2022, these came in a series of temperature spikes, interspersed with periods of cooler weather. Furthermore, the nighttime temperatures were lower. This diurnal variation gave the vines respite from the high heat, slowing their physiology, allowing for complex phenolic (flavour) ripeness to develop, as well as physiological ripeness.

Although this made perfect sense, for us, it still did not explain why the wines were so fresh...not just relative to the expectation of a hot year like '22, but to *any* year.

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A meeting with one of the winemakers at Cos d'Estournel put things into place. Several producers mentioned vine 'memory' and adaptation, but our host at Cos was the first to explain it in detail. The heatwave of 2003 was an extreme event, without precedent, following the largely cool, damp 2002 vintage. By contrast, following the hot years of 2018, '19 and '20 (and, to a lesser extent, '21), the vines have adapted in various ways, for instance, producing smaller leaf canopies that lose less to transpiration.

As trailing plants, vines are by nature adaptive to their environment (clambering around trees etcetera). Epigenetic changes can alter the way plant DNA expresses itself in a very short space of time, with lasting effects, even though the DNA itself remains the same.

Human behaviour has also adapted, an example being how many estates had acclimatised in previous vintages to having large teams of pickers available, to harvest early. This turned out to be the earliest Bordeaux harvest since records began. Deciding when to pick and how to handle the wine in the winery to avoid over-extraction were key.

The Market for 2022 Bordeaux

The 2022 harvest was around 15% down in volume on the 10-year average.¹ In 2022, 550 million bottles of Bordeaux were made, compared with an average of 770 million in the noughties. This is partly due to less production of bulk wines, but the top châteaux are also reducing the amount of wine made in search of quality. Another factor effecting supply is that the châteaux are releasing less and less stock en primeur each year, retaining more to sell as bottled wine.

Our experience of releases with bottle age, for example Château Palmer's "10 years on" and new all new vintages of Château Latour, suggests that this stock will be at a significant premium when it does come to market. Our best advice would be to take advantage of the plethora of cru classé wines with very high scores and long cellaring potential at £300-£700 per dozen. You will find many of these, and wines at all price levels, in our recommendations below.

Antony Irvine

¹ Gavin Quinney <https://gavinquinney.com/2023/04/28/bordeaux-2022-and-low-yields/#more-20737>

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Wines by Commune

Wines are listed in order of their communes, from north to south and from the left bank to the right. We have listed wines which are now sold out, as later further tranches may become available. Please contact us if a wine you are seeking is not listed. Critics' tasting notes and names are abbreviated (see the key below).

Critics notes & scores – abbreviations

AG: Antonio Galloni, *Vinous.com* | **JA:** Jane Anson, *janeanson.com* | **JD:** Jebdunnuck.com | **JS:** *Jamessuckling.com* |

NM: Neal Martin, *Vinous.com* | **WA:** William Kelley, *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate* | **YC:** Yohan Castaing, *Robertparker.com*

Saint-Estèphe

2022 Château Calon Ségur, Grand Cru Classé St-Estèphe | V. LIMITED £610 / 6

57% Cabernet Sauvignon | 34% Merlot | 7% Cabernet Franc | 2% Petit Verdot | 2027-2055

"A wine that's going to flirt with perfection...its overall balance and purity, are just about off the charts, and this remarkable effort shows how successful the northern part of the Médoc was in 2022. Bravo! **97-99 points**" JD

91-93 | JA | 94-96 NM | 95-96 JS | 96-98 WK

2022 Château Capbern, St.-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois £230 / 12

52% Cabernet Sauvignon | 45% Merlot | 3% Cabernet Franc & Petit Verdot | 2027-2042

"One of the more opulent, sexy wines in the vintage...this stunning Saint-Estèphe is up there with the finest vintages I've tasted from this château. **94-96 points**" JD

89-91 AG | 91 JA | 90-92 WK | 90-92 NM | 92-93 JS

2022 Château Cos d'Estournel, Grand Cru Classé St-Estèphe | LIMITED £1,116 / 6

61% Cabernet Sauvignon | 37% Merlot | 1% Cabernet Franc | 1% Petit Verdot | 2030-2065



"...an overtly floral nose with wilted violets infusing the precocious yet controlled black fruit. There's fine delineation, impressive focus and energy. The palate is smooth and silky on the entry with pliant, sculpted tannins...Quintessential Cos d'Estournel, this wine will mature for many years...**95-97 points**" NM

"Inky colour with violet edging, this is full of intense damson, incense, baked plum and black chocolate. A huge quantity of tannins but the texture is velvety, giving a creamy edge to the fruits, with contrast and freshness provided by orange zest and slate...Potential upscore in bottle. **97 points**" JA

"Unique structure to this wine and very Cos with all the spices and dark fruits. Tobacco and cedar. It starts off full-bodied and flavorful, but continues to unfold in an energetic and weightless way. Savory and primary. Al dente grapes here. Exciting and

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thought-provoking. 98-99 points" JS

"One of the finest wines to ever pass my lip...An improved version of the 2009 (if that's possible), this is a legendary wine in the making...98-100 points" JD

2022 Château Lilian Ladouys, Grand Cru Classé St-Estèphe

£174 / 12

52% Merlot | 40% Cabernet Sauvignon | 8% Petit Verdot | 2027-2045

"Intense colour, marzipan and fennel, caraway seeds, cracked pepper, very classic St Estèphe in that it has just a ton of cassis and bilberry fruit, with chewy tannins that have you wading through the mid palate. This is clearly extremely well made, almost 2010 in feel, with balance and confidence...93 points" JA

88-90 WK | 92-93 JS | 91-93+ JD

2022 Château Meyney, St.-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois

£282 / 12

58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 13% Petit Verdot | 2027-2045



"Impressive concentration here with compact tannin structure. Medium- to full-bodied. Firm and steady with a long, velvety finish. Minerally and crunchy. 94-95 points" JS

"A vineyard that should perform strongly in this kind of vintage, because located right next to the river for air conditioning, with a mix of gravel with clear clay sections to retain freshness, and it's definitely one to look out for...A buy. 95 points" JA

2022 Château Montrose, Grand Cru Classé St.-Estèphe | LIMITED

£975 / 6

66% Cabernet Sauvignon | 25% Merlot | 8% Cabernet Franc | 1% Petit Verdot | 2027-2052

"... such a compelling wine that assigning it a bracketed score seems a mere formality...a monument in the making...this only confirms Montrose's status as a de facto first growth and unquestionably one of the contemporary Médoc's very greatest estates. 99-100 points" WK

97 JA | 96-98 AG | 97-98 JS | 97-99 | 98-100 JD

2022 La Dame de Montrose, St.-Estèphe

£378 / 12

71% Merlot | 23% Cabernet Sauvignon | 6% Petit Verdot & Cabernet Franc | 2026-2040

"Wonderful freshness and brightness to this with currants and red berries, as well as chocolate and hints of coffee. Full and layered with round tannins and a fresh and vivid finish. Lemon rind underneath it all. It has lots of length for being mostly merlot...From organically grown grapes. 94-95 points" JS

92 JA | 91-93 NM | 92-94 AG | 92-94 WK

2022 Château Ormes de Pez, St.-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois

£256 / 12

51% Merlot | 39% Cabernet Sauvignon | 10% Cabernet Franc & Petit Verdot | 2027 -2045

"Another brilliant Saint-Estèphe...This serious wine is worth seeking out. Tasted twice. 93-95 points" JD

90-92 WK | 91-93 AG | 93 JA | 92-94 NM | 93-94 JS

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2022 Château Phélan Ségur, St.-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois

£450 / 12

56% Merlot | 40% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2% Cabernet Franc | 2% Petit Verdot | 2030-2045



"Elegant and well balanced, a ton of St Estèphe signature, this is really impressive, well controlled, with purity and depth to the cassis fruits, sweetened by cherry pie, flaky pastry, cinnamon, a welcome bitter finish of aniseed and cocoa beans that gives balance to the overall richness of the palate...**95 points**" JA

"I was lucky enough to be able to taste the 2022 Château Phélan Ségur on multiple occasions, and it always impressed, offering a deep purple hue as well as a ripe, powerful bouquet of darker currant and cassis-like fruits interwoven with leafy herbs, tobacco, and chocolate. A ripe, full-bodied, opulent wine, it has beautiful tannins, a layered, concentrated mouthfeel, and a great finish. It's going to be as good, if not better, than the 2018 and 2019...**94-96 points**" JD

"... an enticingly pure bouquet with blackberry and bilberry fruit, blackcurrant, iris flower and light iodine scents. Very intense and focused. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannins, a liberal sprinkling of freshly cracked black pepper laced over the black fruit. A quintessentially Saint-Estèphe with a structured and very persistent finish. Allowing the wine to open in the glass, it reveals impressive depth (more so than the 2019 and 2020) and precision. This will require several years in bottle, but it will certainly be worth the wait..**95-97 points**" NM

"Loads of fruit here. Energetic, with layers of tannins. Full-bodied. It builds at the end and opens like a butterfly. Hints of minerals and iron. Best ever?...**96-97 points**" JS

2022 Château Tronquoy, St.-Estèphe

£235 / 12

59% Cabernet Sauvignon | 35% Merlot | 6% Petit Verdot | 2028-2060

"...it blossoms without any encouragement with copious black cherries, cassis and blueberry scents. The oak is beautifully enmeshed. It conveys a sense of warmth, but retains sufficient delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with saturated tannins that frame that multi-layered black fruit. One of the spiciest Tronquoy-Lalandes for some time, with a peacock's tail on the finish. This is an outstanding Saint-Estèphe determined not to lie in the shadow of its sibling Montrose. **93-95 points**" NM

89-91 WK | 93 JS

Pauillac

2022 Château d'Armailhac, Grand Cru Classé Pauillac | Limited

£242 / 6

60% Cabernet Sauvignon | 22% Merlot | 16% Cabernet Franc | 2% Petit Verdot | 2027-2055



"Deep aromas of raspberries, cherries, crushed mint and spices preface the 2022 d'Armailhac, a medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated wine that's deep, lively and seamless, framed by powdery tannins and concluding with a penetrating finish.

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92-94 points" WK

"...an extremely intense Armailhac, really stepping into its Pauillac boots, a ton of deep plum, cassis and damson...**94 points**" JA

"...This has a very pure and sensual bouquet with precocious black plum, cassis violet and espresso scents. The palate is medium-bodied with muscular tannins on the entry, though I find just a little more complexity compared to the Clerc Milon this year. There's a gentle and discrete crescendo toward its delineated and mineral finish. Excellent. This is more like the d'Armailhac that I was familiar with, say, ten years ago. It will surely be irresistible once it reaches its peak. You've been warned. **93-95 points**" NM

"Another wine that showed beautifully on multiple occasions...This deep purple-hued beauty offers up a full-bodied, ripe, sexy profile that carries lots of blueberry, cherry, and cassis fruit, notes of spice, leafy herbs, and chocolate, velvety tannins, good acidity, and a great finish. It should have a broad, lengthy drink window. **94-96 points**" JD

"This is like a baby Mouton this year with blackcurrant, flower, and orange aromas. Medium- to full-bodied with a tight and racy palate that shows persistence and verve. One to watch. **96-97 points**" JS

2022 Château Clerc-Milon, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | LIMITED

£396 / 6

59% Cabernet Sauvignon | 32% Merlot | 8% Cabernet Franc | 1% Carmenère | 2030-2055

"...reminds me of the 2018 with its full-bodied, ripe, yet elegant style. Cassis, graphite, espresso roast, and lead pencil notes define the aromatics, and it has a beautiful spine of acidity, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It shows the ripe, exuberant yet structured style of the vintage beautifully...**94-96 points**" JD

91-93 AG | 91-93 NM | 93-95 WK | 95 JA | 95-96 JS

2022 Le Pastourelle de Clerc-Milon, Château Clerc-Milon, Pauillac

£266 / 12

52% Cabernet Sauvignon | 40% Merlot | 8% Cabernet Franc, Carmenère & Petit Verdot | 2025-2037

"...a full-bodied, ripe, straight-up sexy second wine offering red and black fruits, an expansive, layered, seamless mouthfeel, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It's going to shine right out of the gate...**91-93 points**" JD

87-89 points" NM | 91 JA | 90-92 AG | 91-93 JD | 92-93 JS

2022 Château Duhart-Milon, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | V. LIMITED

£378 / 6

78% Cabernet Sauvignon | 22% Merlot | 2030-2060

"...more richness as well as classic Pauillac character in its lead pencil, graphite, tobacco, and red and black fruit-driven aromatics. With gorgeous richness, a medium to full bodied mouthfeel, and a great finish, this utterly classic, seamless, balanced Pauillac should be snatched up by readers. It's going to give the 2009 a run for its money. **94-96+ points**" JD

91-93 WK | 92-94 AG | 93-95 NM | 95-96 JS

2022 Moulin de Duhart, Château Duhart-Milon, Pauillac

£336 / 12

87% Merlot | 13% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2025-2038

"...a gorgeous nose of ripe black cherries, tobacco, and earth. It's medium-bodied, with plenty of richness, fine tannins, and a great finish. It's going to offer pleasure right out of the gate yet still have 10-15 years of overall longevity. **91-93 points**" JD

87-89 WK | 90-92 AG | 94 JS

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2022 Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac

£357 / 6

79% Cabernet Sauvignon | 21% Merlot | 2030-2065



"A very structured and rich red with black berry and chocolate. Full-bodied with a solid core of fine tannins and a fresh and muscular finish. Dusty texture. Yet it remains bright and vivid. 3.55 pH...**95-96 points**" JS

"...Captures just the right amount of drama without sacrificing Pauillac character, this is a wine that is clearly going to age extremely well, with depth of flavour and rich tannic frame that shows how 2022 can succeed in the right hands. 75% new oak, 3.57pH...**96 points**" JA

"...a brilliant classic in the making, wafting from the glass with aromas of dark berries, violets and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated palate that exhibits beautiful structural refinement and purity of fruit. Classy and integrated, it is somewhat reminiscent of a modern-day and less forbiddingly structured version of this estate's brilliant 1982. **95-97 points**" WK

"... a little more precocity and sensuality compared to other vintages, not cut from the same "classical" cloth as, say, the 2019 or 2020. Underlying this velvety veneer are enticing traits of freshly-rolled tobacco and undergrowth. The palate is medium-bodied with finely-sculpted tannins. Silky smooth in texture, so much so that it belies that backbone underneath. There is a peacock's tail of mineral-rich, quite peppery black fruit on the finish, completing a Pauillac endowed with huge potential. **96-98 points**" NM

2022 Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac

£378 / 12

58% Cabernet Sauvignon | 40% Merlot | 2% Petit Verdot | 2030-2060



"...an airy nose, well-defined with potpourri, even lavender infusing the black fruit. Pencil box hints emerge with time in the glass...Very fine. **92-94 points**" Neal Martin, Vinous.com

"I loved the 2022 Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, another Pauillac that shines for its purity and length. Offering lots of red and black fruits, graphite, tobacco, and spicy oak, it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, nicely integrated, ripe, fine-grained tannins, plenty of mid-palate depth, and a great finish. It shows the richer style of the vintage yet has a solid spine of freshness that keeps it light on its feet. **93-95+ points**" Jebdunnuck.com

"Beautiful texture here. Tannins are dense and compact but finely polished and silky. Seamless and even with length and succulence. Medium- to full-bodied. Power with elegance. Endless for this. Finally the best ever. **96-97 points.**" James Suckling

2022 Château Haut Bages Libéral, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac

£402 / 12

87% Cabernet Sauvignon | 13% Merlot | 2032-2070

"...an entrancing bouquet with blackberry, briary, crushed stone and light estuarine scents, understated initially but rapidly gaining intensity. The palate is medium-bodied, fresh and saline with sculpted tannins, stunning balance and a mineral finish. This is an outstanding, vivacious 2022 from proprietor Claire Villars-Lurton. **94-96 points**" NM

93 JA | 93-96 AG | 96-97 JS

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2022 Château Haut-Batailley, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac

£520 / 12

70% Cabernet Sauvignon | 30% Merlot | 2033-2070

"...much more structured and darker than the Verso, offering classic Pauillac cassis, currant, tobacco leaf, melted chocolate, and espresso nuances, with an almost iron-like hint that emerges with time in the glass. Full-bodied, concentrated, and powerful, it's nevertheless balanced and textured. It's a brilliant wine, if not the finest vintage I've tasted from this château. **94-96+ points**"
JD

93 JA | 91-93+ WK | 93-95 AG | 93-95 NM | 94-95 JS

2022 Château Lafite-Rothschild, 1er Cru Classé, Pauillac | V. LIMITED

£3,570 / 6

94% Cabernet Sauvignon | 5% Merlot | 1% Petit Verdot | 2032-2075



"Saturated inky colour, with intense ruby reflections. This is a classically constructed Lafite, with clear power to the tannins and intense spice, a little more upfront and concentrated than you find in many En Primeur vintages at this property but it exemplifies balance and confidence. Fully in control, delivering estate signature with finesse and understatement, with pulses of graphite, slate, bitter almond and cocoa bean. Takes its time to uncurl in the glass, leaving you plenty of time to admire its architecture. Give it a good decade at least...Potential upscore in bottle. **97 points**" JA

"...unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cassis, sweet soils tones, cigar box and lilac. Medium to full-bodied, it's the most tensile of the first growths this year, with a layered, concentrated but youthfully introverted mid-palate, lively acids and a long, saline finish. It checks in at a rather high pH of 3.85, which belies its incisive profile, from a harvest that extended from August 31 to September 24. **95-97+ points**" WK

"...an intense bouquet with blackberry, crushed stone, touches of pencil box and undergrowth, very Lafite-Rothschild in style. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, perfectly judged acidity, linear and focused. Compared to vintages a couple of decades ago, there is mid-palate weight, yet it retains classicism and transparency, while delivering quite a gentle but insistent grip on the finish. Perpetually the most deceptive of First Growth, one should not doubt its long-term potential. 2032-2075. **96-98 points**" NM

"...a richer, more opulent wine compared to the more classic 2020 (although the pH is higher in the 2020) and has a deep, full-bodied, concentrated profile as well as classic Lafite aromatics of spicy red and black fruits, freshly sharpened pencils, graphite, and tobacco. Deep, rich, and concentrated, it nevertheless stays pure and flawlessly balanced, with ample, ripe tannins and a great finish. It's going to have some up-front appeal by Lafite standards but should still require a decade of bottle age. Director Eric Koher compares this to the 2005, but this modern-day clone of the 1959 is one of the most powerful, concentrated Lafites I've tasted. **97-99 points**" JD

"A classical Lafite that reminds me of something like the 1986, with its blackcurrant and tobacco character with cedar and hazelnut, but it's so today with its purity and precision. It's really about being Lafite here. Terroir gives great elegance with strength. **99-100 points**" JS

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2022 Château Lynch-Bages, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | LIMITED

£635 / 6

66% Cabernet Sauvignon | 28% Merlot | 3% Cabernet Franc | 3% Petit Verdot | 2032-2075



"The 2022 Lynch-Bages shows all the classic Lynch layers, but dialed up to the maximum Rich, deep and explosive, the 2022 packs tremendous punch. Sweet dark cherry, spice, leather, menthol, licorice, plum and mocha all open with time in the glass. The tannins are imposing, and yet there is more than enough fruit to balance things out, at least to some degree I expect the 2022 will need a decade to shed some of its tannin, but it is formidable, even in the early going. Impressive...**95-97 points**" AG

"...a backward nose that demands a lot of encouragement. This is not as immediate as the 2016 or 2019 at the same stage. Powerful blackberry and boysenberry fruit, cedar and light tobacco notes, this feels like an edifice of aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannins, beautifully balanced, very harmonious yet there is an enormous backbone here that (again) is reminiscent of Mouton. Extremely long on the finish, this will need its barrel maturation to fully knit together and it is going to be a Pauillac for the long haul. 2032-2075. **95-97 points**" NM

"Full on inky purple in colour, this is sculpted and full of character. Intense, not just a reflection of the vintage but in the increasing concentration found in Lynch Bages over the past decade. Delivers so much character, with charcoal, soot, campfire, liquorice, slate, bilberry, cassis. Hugely impressive and complex, will age for decades. As it opens and those fierce tannins loosen their grip a little, the floral character of the Cabernet Sauvignon becomes more clear. It's austere right now, with shoulders and muscles, but I am fully on board. One to wait for.. **97 points**" JA

"Wow. Blackcurrants, blueberries, blackberries and flowers. Full-bodied with beautifully integrated tannins that melt into the wine. Persistent and precise. A fantastic wine for the cellar...**98-99 points**" JS

2022 Château Mouton-Rothschild, 1er Cru Classé, Pauillac | V. LIMITED

£3108 / 6

92% Cabernet Sauvignon | 8% Merlot | 2032-2075



"A firm and compact Mouton with a powerful tannin frame for the vintage, yet it remains fine and precise as it opens to a velvety texture. Black fruit with tar, pencil lead and tobacco. Driven and firm. A little angular and tight at the moment. **96-97 points**" JS

"... a powerhouse. Inky, deep and explosive, the 2022 is a real head-turner. The combination of intense dark fruit, strong gravelly/mineral notes and imposing structure clearly bring to mind another great Mouton, and that is the 1986. In a word: magnificent. **96-98 points.**" AG

"...more voluptuous than the 2022 Lafite-Rothschild which is what you expect. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy and quite strict tannins (the IPT is 76), that frame layers of black fruit laced with tobacco and graphite. Powerful, almost burly, it is perhaps how the 1986 tasted in its youth. A Mouton-Rothschild determined to make a statement and it certainly does that. Feels a bit like tasting Thor's hammer at the moment, but it will just require considerable cellaring. **96-98 points.**" NM

2022 Le Petit Mouton, Pauillac 2nd wine of Mouton-Rothschild | LIMITED

£1098 / 6

71% Cabernet Sauvignon | 19% Merlot | 7% Cabernet Franc | 3% Petit Verdot | 2028-2054

"You often get powerful colour and texture with Petit Mouton, because it is never afraid to lean into its exuberant character, but this really does take things up a notch. Think chocolate brownies, olive paste, baked plum, damson, cassis, huge structure

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and phenolics, well integrated, with a plush mouthfeel and velvety tannins. Not easy to say when to drink this, because it is so appealing right now, even as an En Primeur sample, but the amount of tannins are going to safely take it through the years. One of the first wines that made me see the potential greatness of the vintage... This is a buy. **95 points**" JA

92-94 WK | 92-94 NM | 94-96 JD | 95-96 JS

2022 Château Pichon Baron, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | LIMITED

£810 / 6

81% Cabernet Sauvignon | 19% Merlot | 2030-2070

"...It has wonderful precision on the nose, with intense blackberry and bilberry fruit, crushed stone and graphite. The oak is seamlessly integrated. The palate is tensile right from the start. Taut and linear, fresh, quite saline with a nuanced touch of black pepper toward the finish. Real pedigree and sophistication here, this is a magnificent Pichon-Baron that achieves a new level of precision thanks to the more piecemeal Sauternes-inspired harvest in tandem with the new winery. **96-98 points**" NM

94 JA | 95-97 WK | 96-97 JS | 96-98 AG

2022 Château Pichon Lalande, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | V. LIMITED

£1032 / 6

78% Cabernet Sauvignon | 17% Merlot | 5% Cabernet Franc | 2032-2062



"...This has a subtle bouquet, not understated but it unfurls in the glass (unlike others that explode.) Blackberry and cedar, light touches of mint, a hint of dark chocolate. The palate is medium-bodied with a velvety texture with lovely balanced, gentle but insistent grip, slightly granular as it fans out with black fruit, cedar and light graphite notes. This is a very suave Pichon-Lalande that will age with style. **96-98 points**" NM

"Exceptionally well controlled, delivering grip and tension alongside the creamy ripe blackberry, cassis and raspberry puree fruits, studded with cloves, cocoa bean, violet, iris, wet earth, heather, mandarin, orange zest, slate. Another exceptional vintage from a property that is delivering at the top of its game, this impresses without seeming to try too hard. Precision winemaking also, with very low pumpovers, reduced by half from a decade ago, and no added sulphites until putting the wine into barrel... **98 points**" JA

"...magnificent. In recent years, Estate Director Nicolas Gumineau has pushed Pichon Comtesse to the limit. Maybe even a bit too far. But the 2022 is in the end a super-classic wine that emphasizes mid-weight structure, aromatic presence and persistence more than size. Sweet floral, savory and mineral accents run through a core of ripe, racy red-toned fruit. All the elements are so well balanced. Tasted four times. **96-99 points**" AG

"... one wine where a comparison with this estate's magical 1982 doesn't appear to be far-fetched. Wafting from the glass with deep aromas of cassis, plums, violets, rose petals, tobacco leaf and pencil shavings, it's full-bodied, supple and fleshy, with a layered, seamless core of fruit that largely conceals its chassis of powdery structuring tannin. Concluding with a long, expansive and beautifully perfumed finish... has the potential to equal or even surpass the 2019 and 2016 vintages at this address... **97-99 points**" WK

"I love the aromatics here with botanicals as well as currants, blackberries and oranges. Full-bodied with incredible tannins that build on the palate with finesse and focus. Featherlight but always there. Stealth in structure. Very vertical. Savory. Superb... **98-99 points**" JS

"One of the gems from Pauillac is unquestionably the 2022 Château Pichon-Longueville Comtesse De Lalande... A hypothetical blend of the 2019 and 2020, it's a full-bodied, concentrated, opulent Comtesse offering beautiful blue fruits, some chocolate, leafy herbs, and undeniable minerality, ripe, velvety tannins, and a great finish. Despite the higher Cabernet Sauvignon component, this stays silky, expansive, and incredibly sexy. It's going to be drinkable with just 4-5 years of bottle age but should have a lengthy drink window. Hats off to director Nicolas Glumineau for another legendary wine from this château. **97-100 points**" JD

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2022 Pichon Comtesse Réserve, Pauillac, Ch Pichon Lalande, Pauillac **£216 / 6**

54% Cabernet Sauvignon | 34% Merlot | 10% Petit Verdot | 2025-2040

"The density of fruit is serious with blackcurrants, black berries, crushed stone and coffee beans. Yet it's not heavy and overdone. The palate is full and rich, but also agile and weightless, with tannins that are spread and pretty. 95-96 points" JS

91-93 AG | 91-93 WK | 91-93 NM | 93 JA | 94 JD

2022 Château Pontet-Canet, Grand Cru Classé, Pauillac | **LIMITED** **£538 / 6**

57% Cabernet Sauvignon | 35% Merlot | 4% Cabernet Franc | 4% Petit Verdot | 2028-2050

"What a finish on this Pontet-Canet. So much energy and brightness. It's full-bodied yet so tight and focused with superb fruit and transparency. It is racy and fine with super fine texture. It's like crushed cabernet sauvignon with cassis, tobacco and cigar box. Licorice and spices. Freshness of the seed. 99-100 points" JS

94 JA | 94-96 NM | 95-97 AG | 97-99 JD

St.-Julien

2022 Château Beychevelle, Grand Cru Classé, St.-Julien | **V. LIMITED** **£430 / 6**

54% Cabernet Sauvignon | 42% Merlot | 4% Petit Verdot | 2030-2065

"I was able to taste the 2022 Château Beychevelle on multiple occasions, and it never failed to impress me...one of those wines that makes you stop and say "wow" due to its purity, depth, and texture. Sporting a dense purple hue as well as lots of blueberry and black cherry fruits, it's full-bodied and has a layered, seamless mouthfeel, building yet gorgeous tannins, and subtle background notes of crushed violets, flowers, and graphite. This is a sensational effort from director Philippe Blanc. 95-97+ points" JD

93 JA | 92-94 WK | 94-96 AG | 95-97 NM

2022 Château Branaire-Ducru, Grand Cru Classé, St.-Julien | **LIMITED** **£474 / 12**

60% Cabernet Sauvignon | 31% Merlot | 7% Cabernet Franc & Petit Verdot | 2030-2065



"...a powerhouse, almost unnaturally so for this Saint-Julien, which is usually a more understated wine. A blast of dark plum fruit makes a pretty strong first impression. Licorice, cloves, spice, menthol and chocolate fill out the layers. Readers should expect a concentrated, virile Saint-Julien with compelling aromatic presence. In this warm, low-yielding vintage, Branaire is quite the brooding powerhouse. It will be interesting to see if more finesse develops in time. Impressive. Tasted two times. 94-96 points" AG

"An absolute gem of a Saint-Julien...Pure cassis, black raspberries, spicy wood, and dried flower notes all define the aromatics, and it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a silky, elegant, beautifully balanced mouthfeel, and tannins. In addition, it has a sense of freshness and purity that keeps you coming back to the glass. It's clearly the finest wine I've tasted from this château, which going forward merits serious attention. 95-97 points" JD

"A brilliant wine that's the finest young vintage I've tasted at this Saint-Julien estate, the 2022 Branaire-Ducru wafts from the

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glass with aromas of violets, blackberries, sweet cassis, licorice and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and multidimensional palate that's succulent, sapid and perfumed, framed by supple tannins and concluding with a long, mouthwatering finish...it comes warmly recommended. **95-97 points**" WK

"...This feels refined and focused on the nose with plush red berry fruit, dried rose petals and orange rind scents Classic Branaire. The palate is fresh on the entry with pliant tannins. It's very well structured to the degree that it conveys a sense of symmetry. Lightly spiced toward the finish with notes of graphite lingering on the aftertaste, this represents an excellent Branaire Ducru that will age over many years and will surely appeal to those seeking more classical Saint-Julien...Branaire-Ducru continues its upward trajectory under proprietor François-Xavier Marateaux... **95-97 points**" NM

"The fine and intense tannins are very impressive because they fold beautifully into the wine, with blackcurrants, black cherries, hints of chocolate and hazelnuts. It's full-bodied with tight and focused fruit and a long and classy finish. Fantastic definition to this. Fresh...**96-97 points**" JD

2022 Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien | V. LIMITED £1,122 / 6

82% Cabernet Sauvignon | 18% Merlot | 2040-2075



"One of the Médoc's most powerful wines this...a punchy, modern Saint-Julien reminiscent of a hypothetical blend of the 2018 and 2020. **94-96 points**" WK

"...undoubtedly one of the most dense and muscular that I have encountered over many years tasting at the estate, full-bodied with vice-like tannins...This Leviathan Ducru-Beaucaillou threatens to overwhelm the senses, uncompromising in many ways, and it will patently take many years for the tannins to soften. I feel that it is only once in bottle that one will be able to gauge its trajectory. 2040-2075. **95-97 points**" NM

"Some much creme de cassis and blackcurrant aromas and flavors here. Full-bodied with powerful tannins, yet fine and layered. Chewy. You can really feel the thick grape skins here. Excellent length. Tannins spread across the palate. Minerally and crushed stone. **97-98 points**" JS

"Deep damson colour, poised and intense, a serious wine with crushed mint, graphite and bitter black chocolate on the opening beats, setting the tone for a slow reveal of confident St Julien character. Powerful tannins convey purity and precision, set against creamy cassis and bilberry fruits, with softer smoked earth and baked spice, and a slate finish. The construction is careful and measured, extremely impressive, this is has decades ahead. 3.8ph, 95IPT. 100% new oak. 30hl/h yield. **98 points**" JA

2022 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou, Ch Ducru-Beaucaillou, St-Julien | LIMITED £432/ 12

66% Merlot | 32% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2% Petit Verdot | 2030-2058

"...a delineated bouquet with a mixture of red and black fruit. The briary and smoky aromas feel more understated compared to its peers. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins and seamlessly integrated oak that lends a silky texture. Very harmonious with an insistent grip (the IPT is 93), it lacquers the mouth long after it has departed. That Pauillac tincture is displayed and defines its precise finish. Excellent, but be warned that the oak will require several years to assimilate fully. Not so far behind the Grand Vin because of the growing season. **93-95 points**" NM

90-92 WK | 92-94 AG | 94-95 JS

2022 Château Gloria, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien

£377/ 12

50% Cabernet Sauvignon | 35% Merlot | 6% Cabernet Franc | 9% Petit Verdot | 2029-2060

"...a perfumed, floral nose with crushed violet infusing the black cherry and blueberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with sumptuous tannins that belie the structure underneath. With pure fruit and well-judged acidity, this 2022 is sensual with a

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persistent and lightly spiced finish. Superb. 94-96 points" NM

92 JA | 91-93 AG | 91-93 WK | 94-95 JS | 94-96 JD

2022 Château Gruaud Larose, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien

£420 / 6

83% Cabernet Sauvignon | 14% Merlot | 3% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2070

"...an impressive bouquet with pure blackberry and raspberry fruit, black truffle and sous-bois scents. I am impressed by its delineation and focus; frankly, these are the nicest aromatics I've encountered for a while at this address. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannins. I cannot remember a Gruaud at this nascent stage that exhibits this level of energy and tension deriving from the Cabernet Sauvignon extracted at the beginning of vinification. There's much more precision here. Mineral-driven toward the finish, this easily surpasses vintages made at the estate over the last decade and more. Perhaps like the legendary Gruauds of old (1982, 1961, 1928, even 1870)? Gruaud reborn. 2028-2070. 95-97 points" NM

93-95 AG | 94-96 WK | 96 JA

2022 Château Lagrange, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien

£474 / 12

86% Cabernet Sauvignon | 12% Merlot | 2% Petit Verdot | 2029-2055



"...an almost clinical bouquet, with very well defined blackberry and blueberry fruit, graphite and crushed stone. Quite a gap in quality between this and the Fiefs de Lagrange this year. The palate is extremely pure with cashmere tannins, black cherry fruit infused by blood orange, lightly spiced, hints of white pepper toward a very concentrated, fine-boned finish. This will require several years in bottle, but it will be worth waiting for. A serious and very able Lagrange that should not be under-estimated. 95-97 points" NM

91-94 JD | 94-95 JS | 96 JA | 94-96+ WK

2022 Château Langoa-Barton, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien | V. LIMITED

£214 / 6

56.5% Cabernet Sauvignon | 41% Merlot | 2.5% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2060

"The first vintage produced in the estate's new winery, which more than doubled the number of vats, permitting sub-plot by sub-plot vinification, the brilliant 2022 Langoa Barton offers up aromas of dark berries, cassis, violets and cigar wrapper, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and fleshy palate endowed with terrific depth and tension. Polished and penetrating, it should match or even surpass the 2019 and 2016 vintages, and it is sure to be one of the more intelligent purchases of the en primeur campaign. 93-95 points" WK

91-AG | 92-94 NM | 93-95 | 96-97 JS

2022 Château Léoville-Barton, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien | V. LIMITED

£440 / 6

83% Cabernet Sauvignon | 11.5 % Merlot | 5.5% Cabernet Franc | 2030-2070

"...This represents the first vintage that has been vinified using gravity and cuvons (basically vats on wheels!) in their newly-built winery. The nose makes an instant impact with intense black cherry, bilberry and violet aromas. A nuanced estuarine/oyster shell scent emerges with time in the glass...This is a precision-tooled Léoville Barton with the sharpness of a samurai sword. The 2022 marks the start of a new and glorious chapter for the Saint-Julien estate, which passes in the slipstream of the 2019 and 2022. It constitutes the finest Léoville Barton that I have tasted out of barrel. Tasted three times. 96-98 points" NM

93-95 AG | 94-96+ JD | 96-97+ WK

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2022 Château Léoville Poyferré, Grand Cru Classé, St.-Julien | LIMITED £507/ 6

58% Cabernet Sauvignon | 34% Merlot | 4% Cabernet Franc | 4% Petit Verdot | 2030-2070



"Dense and succulent fruit and tannins, beautifully powerful, with fresh acidities, beautifully spicy with notes of black cherries, fresh figs, eucalyptus, rosemary, rose petals and cassis. Muscular tannins shot through with salted caramel sweetness, lifted by saffron and slate. Accomplished, impressive. Harvest September 8 to 28. 80% new oak from 16 different coopers. **96 points**" JA

"...quintessentially LP on the nose...This is a very classy, sophisticated Saint-Julien that may well rest at the top of my banded score once in bottle. 2030-2070. **95-97 points**" NM

"A very solid LP with black berry, blackcurrant, crushed stone and lavender character. Full and really well structured with a linear length to it. Focused and so polished. Thoughtful...**96-97 points**" JS

"I was blown away by the 2022 Château Léoville Poyferré...This inky hued beauty offers that rare mix of power and elegance ...In a region that seems to only talk about finesse and elegance, it's a relief to still have producers such as this producing powerful, intense, singular wines...**97-100 points**" JD

2022 Château Léoville Las Cases, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien | V. LIMITED £1,550 / 6

83.5% Cabernet Sauvignon | 10.5% Cabernet Franc | 6% Merlot | 2032-2080



"...an almost Pauillac-like style in its ripe, powerful aromatics of graphite, lead pencil shavings, cassis, and liquid rock-like minerality. Full-bodied, massively concentrated, and powerful on the palate, it nevertheless stays flawlessly balanced, has just about off-the-charts purity, ripe yet building tannins, and a great finish. This will clearly rank with the truly greats from this address and reminds me slightly of a mix of the 2016 and 2018. It is not, however, going to be for those looking for instant gratification. **98-100 points.**" JD

"One of the wines of the vintage...a monument in the making that combines unerring classicism with unusual sensuality and charm by the standards of this estate's sometimes youthfully forbidding wines. Exhibiting deep aromas of dark berries, violets, pencil lead, rose petals and tobacco leaf, it's full-bodied, deep and multidimensional, with terrific concentration, beautiful purity of fruit, abundant but refined tannins and a long, vibrant finish...**98-100 pts.**" WK

"...Precocious, almost decadent blackberry and blueberry fruit on the nose, there is something lavish and audacious about this Saint-Julien. There is an underlying estuarine element, a whiff off the banks of the Gironde. The palate is medium-bodied with polished tannins, very detailed, extremely pure, what you might call a "vertical" Las-Cases with fabulous precision on the finish. This surpasses the 2018-2020 trio and to use that clichéd expression, is a "tour de force". **98-100 points.**" NM

"...stunning. Fine-grained and nuanced, the 2022 Las Cases is breathtaking...sublime finesse. Silky, plush and exceptionally beautiful, the 2022 Las Cases is shaping up to be one of the wines of the year. **98-100 points.**" AG

"This shows no gravity. The tannins are totally melted in the wine and give it fantastic structure, but the texture is so fresh and vivid. Crushed stone. Cloves. Chinese spices. Great finish. Opening and flying away. Orange peel. Very special. Thought-provoking. Endless...**99-100 points.**" JS

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2022 Château Talbot, Grand Cru Classé, St-Julien

£578 / 12

70% Cabernet Sauvignon | 25% Merlot | 5% Petit Verdot | 2027-2060



"Ruby colour with violet reflections, vivid and intense, well sculpted, this is delicious, with texture and heart. There are clear depths to the nuanced blackberry and cassis fruits, great quality, with St Julien balance. One to follow over ageing, this is an impressive Talbot. 60% new oak for ageing. **94 points**" JA

"The 2022 Talbot is especially impressive, and if it fulfills all its promise, it is likely to emerge as this large Saint-Julien property's most exciting wine since the 1980s. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of cherries, blackberries and cassis mingled with hints of violets and pencil lead, it's medium to full-bodied, velvety and concentrated, with a layered core of fruit, rich structuring tannins and a long, lively finish...**93-95 points**" WK

"Readers will love the 2022 Château Talbot, one of the finest vintages from this château that I can recall. Possessing a gorgeous nose of pure cassis, blackberries, tobacco, and iron, it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a pure, layered, elegant mouthfeel, and perfectly integrated tannins...this utterly classic, pure, lengthy Saint-Julien will benefit from just a few years of bottle age and have a broad drink window. Bravo. **93-95+ points**" JD

"The tannins really are integrated and fill out across the palate. The texture is so beautiful and refined. Medium- to full-bodied and crunchy, with lovely texture and refinement. **94-95 points**" JS

Margaux

2022 Château Angludet, Margaux

£324 / 12

53% Cabernet Sauvignon | 24% Merlot | 23% Petit Verdot | 2029-2055



"The Bordelais machine has already begun to alienate potential consumers with exaggerated claims to the effect that 2022 is "the best vintage ever"; yet there are some wines that do actually appear to merit such hyperbole, and the 2022 D'Angludet is one of them. Offering up deep aromas of inky cassis, plums, pencil lead and subtle spices, it's medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a broad attack, ripe acids and a supple, seamless profile, concluding with an expansive finish. **91-93 points**" WK

"...a gorgeous creamy texture, svelte and luxuriant, yet the finish has an underlying classicism and a sense of precision. This is frequently one of the best value wines on the Left Bank, and if you can think of a reason not to have any in your cellar, send a postcard to the usual address. **91-93 points.**" NM

"The intensity of the violet-edged colour extraction is pretty remarkable in the Médoc, and this manages to get the balance right between intensity and appeal, alongside vibrant raspberry, brushed damson and bilberry fruit, given lift by pomegranate and and passion fruit, and a curl of smoked earth. One to look out for, should be great value...**94 points**" JA

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2022 Château Brane-Cantenac, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux | **SOLD OUT** £360 / 6

74% Cabernet Sauvignon | 23% Merlot | 3% Cabernet Franc, Carmenère & Petit Verdot | 2030-2065

"Easily one of the best wines of the appellation. Red rose petal fragrance, damp earth, rosemary, baking spice, sandalwood, incense, graphite and slate. Exceptional balance, deep chocolate and mint character, with lush damson and cassia fruits. Crushed violet flowers and salted cracker salinity, extremely impressive....**98 points.**" JA

95-97 WK | 96-97 JS | 96-98 NM

2022 Château Giscours, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux £300 / 6

Cabernet Sauvignon 64% | Merlot 30% | Cabernet Franc 3% | Petit Verdot 3% | 2030-2070



"With the 2022 Giscours, this estate takes another step up, delivering a deep and characterful wine redolent of cherries, dark berries, violets, peony and forest floor. Medium to full-bodied, broad shouldered and layered, it's deep and elegantly muscular, with impressive concentration, abundant but refined tannins and a structural authority reminiscent of the great Giscours vintages of the 1970s...**94-96+ points**" WK

"...a regal, sophisticated wine. Succulent red cherry, blood orange, spice, menthol and rose petal lend notable vibrancy and freshness throughout. Most surprisingly, the 2022 remains light on its feet, especially for a wine made from such low yields in a warm, dry year. Over the last few years Giscours has been one of the most improved properties in the Médoc. The 2022 is another step in that direction. Sublime. **95-97 points**" AG

"The 2022 Giscours was picked between 1 and 29 September, one of the earliest ever, with no SO2 added until blending and using bio-protection (yeasts) to protect the must. It has a delightful and sensual bouquet with lifted, violet and peony-scented blueberry and black cherry fruit. This is very well-defined and perhaps the purest I have encountered from barrel. The palate is medium-bodied with a disarming silky texture, harmonious and focused. It's mineral-driven with a poised and pixelated finish. Certainly, this represents one of the best wines from this Margaux estate in recent years, echoing their golden period of the 60s and early 70s. Tasted twice with consistent notes. 2030-2070. **95-97 points**" NM

"This is a big move forward for Giscours. Full-bodied yet agile and fresh with tannins that are precise and integrated, with great beauty and length. Well-structured and vivid. Extremely fine yet defined tannins, and then it opens like a butterfly. **97-98 points**" JS

2022 Château d'Issan, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux | **V. LIMITED** £306 / 6

55% Cabernet Sauvignon | 30% Merlot | 15% Cabernet Franc, Malbec & Petit Verdot | 2032-2052

"The 2022 Château D'Issan ratchets up the quality, offering more purity, precision, and length. Revealing notes of darker currants and blue fruits, graphite, and chalky minerality, this medium to full-bodied red has beautiful freshness, and is focused, straight, and elegant. Just a beautiful barrel sample, it's very impressive. **95-97+ points**" JD

93-95 WK | 93-95 points NM | 95 points JA | 96-97 JS

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2022 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux **£540/ 12**

55% Cabernet Sauvignon | 40% Merlot | 5% Petit Verdot | 2027-2052

"The 2022 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry is gorgeous and certainly a Margaux worth seeking out. Dense purple-hued, with a rich, powerful bouquet of ripe black fruits, melted chocolate, smoked tobacco, and spice, it picks up a beautiful floral character with air, is full-bodied, and has a layered, opulent mouthfeel as well as a great finish. It shows the vintage's building yet velvety tannins and is going to warrant just 4-5 years or more of bottle age, but it's a brilliant wine in the making. 94-96 points" JD

92-94 AG | 93-95 WK | 93-95 NM | 96-97 JS

2022 Château Margaux, Premier Grand Cru Classé, Margaux | V. LIMITED **£3,096 / 6**

92% Cabernet Sauvignon | 6% Merlot | 2% Petit Verdot | 2027-2060

"Stunning in its density and construction, with a gorgeous balance that starts with red rose aromatics and slides into creamy and intense raspberry, damson, loganberry and cassis fruits. The intense structure of the vintage is on display, here with velvety tannins giving shape and contrast by a push and pull of slate, graphite, cloves, turmeric, cardamom and white pepper. Bitter dark chocolate ending, a character of the year but here delivered with a blast of cooling mint leaf...98-100 points" JA

95-96 JS | 96-97+ WK | 96-98 NM | 97-99 JD | 97-99 AG

2022 Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux, Margaux | LIMITED **£900 / 6**

64% Cabernet Sauvignon | 24% Merlot | 5% Cabernet Franc | 7% Petit Verdot | 2026-2048

"Glass-staining inky purple, fleshy damson and cassis fruits with spice and concentration. Captures the spirit of the vintage with plush damson fruits, edges of sweet spices and gunsmoke, but keeps the understated pleasure that Margaux specialises in, with soft peony aromatics. High Petit Verdot in this blend because using the 2% that normally goes into the first wine but is kept out in 2022...94 points" JA

91-93 NM | 92-94 WK | 94-95 JS

2022 Château Palmer, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux | V. LIMITED **£1,788 / 6**

51% Cabernet Sauvignon | 45% Merlot | 4% Petit Verdot | 2035-2080



"...a wine of sublime beauty and refinement. Silky, caressing and super-expressive...It is a magnificent wine in every way. 96-98 points" AG

"...bursts forth on the nose with precocious black cherries, blueberry, violet and touches of marmalade and tobacco in the background. Complex and expressive. The palate is structured, with the tannic backbone, that winemaker Thomas Duroux talked about, lending this Palmer a sense of verticality. Hints of black pepper emerge with time, multi-layered, powerful Margaux...quintessential Palmer. Do reserve a bin in your cellar for this and let it gather dust for at least a decade. 14.4% alcohol. 96-98 points" NG

"...utterly brilliant, so much so that I questioned in my notes if this would challenge the 2018...its mammoth-sized personality offers layers of blue and black fruits, notes of melted chocolate, crushed stone, and spring flowers, building, velvety tannins, and a great, great finish...hats off to Thomas Duroux for having the confidence to go his own path. He has produced a truly Grand Vin in 2022...97-99 points" JD

"So much class in the nose with a sophisticated kaleidoscope of dark fruit such as blackcurrants, and spices such as salt and pepper, as well as cloves and nutmeg. Full-bodied. Compacted and dense yet weightless. It opens beautifully. The tannins go on and on with wonderful presence. Salty undertones. 98-99 points" JS

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2022 Château Rauzan-Ségla, Grand Cru Classé, Margaux | LIMITED

£505 / 6

72% Cabernet Sauvignon | 26% Merlot | 2% Petit Verdot | 2030-2065



"...a beautifully sensual, charming wine, bursting with aromas of cherries, dark berries and plums mingled with hints of violets, sweet loamy soil and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, deep and layered, it's fleshy and enveloping, with an ample core of vibrant fruit, supple tannins and a long, succulent finish...**96-97 points**" WK

"Supple texture, thoroughly impressive in its depth and grip, blackcurrant, blackberry, crayon, liquorice, mint, slate, fennel, ink, has confidence and character and just so much class. Brings precision to the exuberance of the vintage, barely puts a step wrong, so concentrated and yet delivering slate and lift. Excellent. Tasted twice...**97 points**" JA

"...Brilliant. Full-bodied, layered and round with polished tannins. I like the intensity and focus with such precision and gorgeousness. Is this the 2016 plus more? **97-98 points**" JS

"...a wine that's going to flirt with perfection...This is a legit great wine that's going to rival the 2010, 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2020. **97-99 points**" JD

Haut-Médoc & Médoc

2022 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

£120 / 12

65% Cabernet Sauvignon | 30% Merlot | 5% Petit Verdot | 2028-2048



"...a classy bouquet with blackberry, wild hedgerow, iodine and subtle iris flower scents... This will be a thoroughly enjoyable Beaumont that should age well in bottle. Tasted thrice with consistent notes. **90-92 points**" NM

"Layers of sinewy tannins and eucalyptus spice. Opens to show baked earth, tobacco leaf and liquorice, cassis fruits laced with espresso, edges of campfire, a good quality wine that has concentration without strangling...A value pick...**92 points**." JA

2022 Château Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

£266 / 12

70% Cabernet Sauvignon | 20% Merlot | 5% Petit Verdot | 5% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2040

"The finest wine this estate has produced in some...bursts from the glass with aromas of sweet blackberries, violets, rose petals and spices. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with an enveloping core of sweet, perfumed fruit framed by supple tannin, it concludes with a long, mouthwatering finish...**92-94 points**." WK

93 JA | 93-94 JS

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2022 Château La Lagune, Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois

£432 / 12

Cabernet Sauvignon 52% | Merlot 45% | Petit Verdot 3% | 2030-2060

"Reminding me, like the 2019, of a modern-day version of the lovely 1990, the 2022 La Lagune bursts with aromas of dark berries, cassis, licorice and violets. Medium to full-bodied, supple and fleshy, it's a broad, sensual wine with velvety tannins and a suave, charming profile. With 13.8% alcohol, it remains classically proportioned, with a rather high pH of over 3.8 likely contributing to its open, giving style this year. **93-95 points**" WK

89-91 AG | 92-94 NM | 92-94 AG | 94 JA | 95-96 JS

Pessac-Léognan

2022 Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan | V. LIMITED

£820 / 6

40% Cabernet Franc | 34% Cabernet Sauvignon | 26% Merlot | 2030-2062



"...I am not inclined toward hyperbole, nevertheless, this is the best Les Carmes that Guillaume Pouthier has overseen. 2030-2070. **96-98 points**" NM

"This is so umami with sea urchin character that gives you sea salt and dried seaweed aromas and flavors. The integrity and richness is so impressive with an exotic character, yet it is so classic and fine in structure. 13.5% alcohol. 70% whole cluster fermentation...A new model for Bordeaux? **97-98 points**" JS

"...a strong candidate for the title of wine of the vintage. It's also one of the most singular, characterful wines being produced in the region today...a brilliant success that caps a decade of relentless work by Guillaume Pouthier and his team that have seen Les Carmes Haut-Brion emerge as one of Bordeaux's leading estates...**99-100 points**" YC

"I think one of the legendary wines in the vintage will be the 2022 Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion, which comes from a tiny vineyard not far from Haut-...it's going to rival the 2018 as one of the finest vintages ever produced from this address. It's worth noting this estate has a unique terroir in Pessac that includes some limestone in the soils, and this worked particularly well in 2022. Don't miss this wine. **98-100 points**" JD

"...quite simply, unforgettable. A wine of tremendous energy, the 2022 saturates the palate with inky red/blue fruits, lavender, sage and mint showing remarkable density that builds into an eternal finish enshrouded by seamless tannins...an incredibly modern wine that marries Bordeaux classicism with hints of Northern Rhône and Piedmont inflections. All the elements are so well-balanced that nothing sticks out. Instead, it is the wine's profound beauty that leaves a lasting impression. **98-100 points**" AG

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Established 1969

2022 Domaine de Chevalier, Grand Cru Classé de Graves, Pessac-Léognan

£680/ 12

65% Cabernet Sauvignon | 30% Merlot | 3% Petit Verdot | 2% Cabernet Franc | 2034-2075



"...aromas of minty dark berries, cherries and ripe plums mingled with hints of licorice, coniferous forest and spices. Medium to full-bodied, it's concentrated and layered, textured and elegant, framed by powdery tannins and concluding with a long, penetrating, long finish...**94-96 points**" YC

"Showing how it's done in 2022, Domaine de Chevalier comes in strong with a deep ruby red colour, a vibrant rim, smoked oak on the nose, edges of tar, red roses, liquorice root, and a confident delivery of full-on tannic architecture that frames the cassis and bilberry fruit... **96 points**" JA

"...soars from the glass with take-no-prisoner aromatics: perfumed mineral-rich red berry fruit, incense and black truffle. Pessac-like earthiness with an opposing airiness defines many a great wine from this estate. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannins. Slightly powdery in texture and saline in the mouth, this gets the saliva flowing. However, the arching structure on the finish suggests it will require considerable bottle age. Cellar this for a couple of decades, and you'll be repaid handsomely. **95-97 points**" NM

"Wow. This is incredibly structured and powerful with ultra-fine tannins that are tight and layered. It's full and powerful with carved muscles of tannins. This will need so much time. **98-99 points.**" JS

2022 Château Haut-Brion, 1er Grand Cru Classé, Pessac-Léognan | V. LIMITED

£3,090 / 6

53.6% Merlot | 35.4% Cabernet Sauvignon | 11% Cabernet Franc | 2030-2065



"...a full-bodied, concentrated, structured style that's going to demand bottle age. Cassis, graphite, scorched earth, and tobacco are just some of its nuances aromatically, and it shows the ripe, powerful style of the vintage. There are lots of tannins here, especially on the finish, and it's going to need 7-8 years in the cellar. **96-98 points**" JD

"...a bewitching granular texture, complex and more focused than recent vintages, and comes across as almost pixelated on the finish. Quintessential Haut-Brion. Magnificent, but not necessarily the best wine that Delmas oversaw in this vintage. 2030-2065. **96-98 points**" NM

"...Deep and wonderfully layered, the 2022 possesses remarkable depth but also a bit less of the explosive energy that is such a Haut-Brion signature. I suspect that will come in time, as the 2022 starts to show quite a bit better with a little aeration. Violet, gravel, incense, leather, tobacco and scorched earth linger. Superb. **97-99 points**" AG

"Currants and cedar with sandalwood and peaches. Fascinating aromas. Violets. Full-bodied with a crunchy and electric palate of primary fruit, with hints of tangerines and citrus. Great finish with structure and polish. 53.6% merlot, 35.4% cabernet sauvignon and 11% cabernet franc. Interesting to have such high merlot in the blend. **98-99 points**" JS

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2022 Ch La Mission Haut-Brion, Grand Cru Classé de Graves, Pessac-Léognan | V. LIMITED £1,590/6

51.7% Cabernet Sauvignon | 43.2% Merlot | 5.1% Cabernet Franc | 2029-2065



"One of the most intense Missions that I can remember in terms of colour...Delivers an exceptional feeling of walking the line between excess and restraint, hard to resist...**97 points**" JA

"...a jewel of a wine. Dark, powerful and imposing, with compelling inner sweetness, La Mission is positively striking. The purity of the flavors is striking, but the wine's statuesque personality might be even more impressive...The balance here is just mind-blowing. What a wine! **97-99 points**" AG

"... At the moment, it has got its nose just in front of its First Growth sibling...at least at the moment. For sure, it's going to be one of the standouts of the 2022 vintage. 2029-2065. **97-99 points**" NM

"This has real al dente fruit character on the palate with lemon rind and blackcurrants with blueberries. Lead pencil and stone, too. Full-bodied with chewy and juicy tannins that are primary and growing quickly on the palate as you taste it. Reminds me of the 1978, but brighter and more precise...**98-99 points**" JS

2022 Château Pape Clément, Grand Cru Classé de Graves, Pessac-Léognan

£750/ 12

60% Merlot | 40% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2030-2065



"...an open and expressive bouquet at this stage, with blackcurrant and bilberry scents. A more sensual Pape Clément perhaps, the oak is neatly integrated. Black olives emerge with time, hints of sea spray - this is certainly a wine you have to stay with. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins. Layers of black fruit laced with graphite and cedar, rendering this 2022 quite Pauillac-like in style. Nicely controlled on the finish, this is a Pape Clément with breeding. Tasted four times. 2030-2065. **94-96 points.**" NM

"A full-bodied, concentrated, awesome Pessac...Beautifully done, with remarkable purity and a great finish, it's going to rank with the crème de la crème of the vintage and is well worth seeking out. **96-98+ points.**" JD

"Wow. This is incredibly structured and powerful with ultra-fine tannins that are tight and layered. It's full and powerful with carved muscles of tannins. This will need so much time. **98-99 points.**" JS

2022 Château Haut Bailly, Grand Cru Classé de Graves, Pessac-Léognan

£720 / 6

56% Cabernet Sauvignon | 37% Merlot | 5% Petit Verdot | 2% Cabernet Franc | 2033-2065



"Stunning aromatics, with crushed roses and fragrant spice, edges of incense and gunsmoke. On the palate the fruits are intense

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cassis and bilberry, dusted with cocoa and liquorice root, and shot through with gentle acidities of pomegranate, mandarin peel, saffron and slate. Concentrated dark rosemary on the finish, this is so well judged, effortlessly impressive, a little atypical of Haut-Bailly in that there is less austerity to the tannic architecture than in the more understated vintages but it captures the finessed heart of the property, and will age for decades...97 points" JA

"Incredible complexity of aromas here with ripe currants and blackberries, but also dried flowers like violets and roses. Then there's forest flower character such as bark, mushroom and sandalwood. Black truffles. Full-bodied with tight and chewy tannins that are polished and pure, with a solid and tight finish. It builds on your palate and frames the wine beautifully...97-98 points" JS

"...a bouquet that compels you just to sit and contemplate. It gradually unfolds with blackberry, raspberry, potpourri and iris flower scents, well-defined, not showy but suave. The palate is medium-bodied with filigree tannins. Minerals, black pepper and clove off a gentle grip with an impressive crescendo. It will need a decade in bottle. This Haut-Bailly has a haunting beauty, the kind of wine that will bring people to tears!...96-98 points" NM

"...one of the legendary vintages at this château, and it should be a no-brainer purchase for readers...an incredible perfume of cassis, ripe black cherries, crushed stone, smoke tobacco, and wood smoke. Earning more than a few expletives in my notes, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a deep, layered, multi-dimensional mouthfeel, and ultra-fine, silky tannins. Hold onto your hats, ladies and gentlemen, this is an incredible wine in the making! 98-100 points" JD

2022 Château Smith Haut Lafitte, Grand Cru Classé de Graves, Pessac-Léognan

£683 / 6

65% Cabernet Sauvignon | 32% Merlot | 3% Cabernet Franc | 1% Petit Verdot | 2030-2065

"The polish, texture, complexity and patina are very impressive and fascinating. So spicy and interesting with so much going on. Medium body with wonderfully integrated tannins that are cut and nicely chiselled already. Lemon and violet...97-98 points" JS

94-95 YC | 95-97 NM | 97 JA

St.-Émilion

2022 Château Angélu, St-Émilion | V. LIMITED

£2,148 / 6

53% Merlot | 46% Cabernet Franc | 1% Petit Verdot | 2028-2050

"This estate's shift in the direction of gentler extraction and more reductive, less overtly oaky élevage continues, and this extreme vintage only underlines that...aromas of dark berries and cherries mingled with hints of iris, licorice and pencil lead. Full-bodied, deep and seamless, with a layered core of cool, vibrant fruit, powdery tannins and a long, saline finish, it's a brilliant young wine in the making...96-98 points" WK

95-97 NM | 98-99 JS

2022 Château Ausone, St-Émilion | V. LIMITED

£1,700 / 3

50% Cabernet Franc | 50% Merlot | 2030-2065

"Intense and concentrated, with fennel, aniseed and liquorice root. Where Chapelle d'Ausone celebrates a wave of opulence in the vintage, this focuses more clearly on black tea, slate, intense black chocolate. Precise and well cut, this is creamy and exuberant without sacrificing elegance and balance. Amazing depths of flavour and grip. A true En Primeur sample where you know you are a long long way from this being ready to drink. The first year, incidentally, of not Premier Grand Cru Classé A, although the ranking has not been featured on the label since 2012...Potential 100. 98-100 points" JA

94-96+ WK | 95-97 AG | 95-97.5 NM | 96-98 JD | 97-98 JS

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2022 Château Canon, 1er Grand Cru Classé (B), St.-Émilion | V. LIMITED £780 / 6

75% Merlot | 25% Cabernet Franc | 2032-2075



"...a beautifully-defined bouquet with plumes of blackberry, raspberry and subtle violet flower scents. The palate is very fresh on the entry, announcing a relatively linear Canon. The limestone terroir seeps into every pore of this Saint-Émilion. This is one of the more intellectual and saline Canon wines in recent years. A triumph in such a hot growing season, elevated by its limestone soils. 2032-2075. **96-98 points**" NM

"Endless on the palate with plenty of umami character. So Canon in its nature with plenty of fruit and fine tannins, yet almost weightless. The structure is all there. Electric. Long, long, long...**98-99 points**" JS

"...an incredible wine in the making, and it might be the finest in the series starting in 2015...As classy as they come, it has a beautiful perfume of red and blue fruits as well as notes of white flowers, truffle earth, woodsmoke, and forest floor...this incredible Canon will evolve for 30-40 years. I finished my rough note on this with "Pure class." **97-99+ points**" JD

"From an estate that is delivering its greatest run of vintages since the superb Post War series that preceded the frosts of 1956, the 2022 Canon is a magical wine that will be worth every effort to track down...this pure, perfumed and ineffably complete Canon is built for the ages, even if its structural polish is such that it will be approachable at a surprisingly early age. **99-100 points**" WK

2022 Château Cheval Blanc, St.-Émilion | V. LIMITED

£3,000 / 6

53% Merlot | 46% Cabernet Franc | 1% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2032-2080

"...With profound intensity on the nose, this Cheval offers blackcurrant, blue fruit, iris petals, crushed stone and incense aromas. It is blessed with breathtaking delineation...There is palpable verticality in this Cheval, almost "correct" and "strict", yet endowed with stunning depth and complexity...while it is not the most flamboyant Cheval Blanc I have tasted at this stage, it constitutes a wine for those serious about their Bordeaux. It will give the same satisfaction as when you finish reading a literary masterpiece. **98-100 points**" NM

97-99+ WK | 98-100 JA | 99-100 points" JS

2022 Château Figeac, 1er Grand Cru Classé (A), St.-Émilion | V. LIMITED £1,518 / 6

35% Merlot | 34% Cabernet Franc | 31% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2032-2070

"...a brilliant wine with which to celebrate this property's elevation to Premier Grand Cru Classé "A" status. Wafting from the glass with aromas of raspberries and cassis mingled with notions of iris, forest floor, cigar wrapper and pencil lead, it's medium to full-bodied, pure and perfumed, with a deep and multidimensional core of fruit, bright acids and beautifully refined tannins. Serious yet civilized, it's the quintessential Figeac... **98-100 points**" WK

97-98 JS | 98 JA | 96-98+ JD | 97-99 NM

2022 Château La Gaffelière, St.-Émilion | V. LIMITED

£342 / 6

60% Merlot | 40% Cabernet Franc | 2030-2065

"...a drop-dead gorgeous beauty. Refined, sculpted and wonderfully precise, La Gaffelière simply has it all ...The 2022 is another exceptional wine from the Malet Roquefort family. **98-100 points**" AG

95-96 WK | 96 JA | 94-96+ JD | 95-97 NM | 96-97 JS

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Established 1969

2022 Château Laroque, St-Émilion Grand Cru Classé |

£292 / 12

98% Merlot | 2% Cabernet Franc | 2029-2045



"A very classic Bordeaux with medium to full body, firm tannins and crunchy character, with a linear nature. Currants and blackberries. Sandalwood, too. Fresh. **93-94 points**" JS

"Another impressive performance from this estate, the 2022 Laroque offers up aromas of sweet berries, violets, iris and exotic spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered palate with a rich core of fruit that's framed by lively acids, concluding with a taut, chalky finish. Once again, it's the result of a strict selection that sees only 45% of the production released as the grand vin. **93-95 points**" WK

"Clearly one of the new superstars in the appellation... a classic Saint-Emilion bouquet of crème de cassis, graphite, tobacco, and a liquid rock-like sense of minerality. It's medium to full-bodied, has incredible purity, and ultra-fine tannins. It's unquestionably another beautiful vintage for this chateau that readers will love. **95-97 points**" JD

"You just know that this estate is well placed to succeed in the vintage, and this really does walk the line of ripeness and salinity, such gorgeous definition and vivid energetic fruit. Stretches out through the palate also, has a relaxed confidence to it that is quite unusual in such a full-on vintage. Really impressive, Beaumartin family, David Suire director. **97 points**" JA

2022 Château Saintayme, St.-Émilion

£150/ 12

100% Merlot | 2027-2040



"...bright, floral and vibrant in this vintage, almost surprisingly so. Crushed red berry fruit, rose petal, chalk, mint and white pepper all run through this taut, nervy Saint-Émilion. All the elements are so well balanced. I especially admire the wine's persistence and inner perfume. Terrific. **91-93 points**" AG

"Intense muscular contraction to the tannins on the opening beats, the fruit gets creamy as it opens, with vivid raspberry reflections and plenty of mouthwatering salinity. This is a pretty serious Saintayme, great quality and great value. Olivier Gautrat alongside Noémie Durantou... **93 points**" JA

"So much sea salt and crunchy fruit with berry and grape character. Some orange, too. Medium-bodied, bright and vivid. Lively finish. **93-94 points**" JS

2022 Château Le Tertre Rôteboeuf, St-Émilion Grand Cru | SOLD OUT

£990/ 6

80% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 2030-2060

"Both the suavest and the most exotic cuvée in the Mitjaville portfolio... supple and fleshy wine evocative of blackberries, espresso roast, rose petals, spices and smoked meats. Concentrated, refined and seamless, it concludes with a long, aromatic finish. Readers might think of it as a cousin of the 2009 vintage, with its sweetness of fruit but rather ethereal, harmonious profile, which stands in contrast with more overtly powerful years, such as 2020 or 2010. **95-97 points**" WK

95-97 NM | 96-98 JD

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2022 Château Tour Saint-Christophe, St-Émilion Grand Cru

£350/ 12

80% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2045

"Another great wine from this château...a great nose of red plums, cassis, chalky minerality, and spice, and this full-bodied Saint-Émilion is impeccably balanced, with a pure, graceful mouthfeel, fine tannins, and outstanding length. The purity of fruit here is truly terrific. **94-96 points**" JD

91-93 WA | 93 JA | 95-96 JS

Pomerol

2022 Château L'Eglise Clinet, Pomerol | V. LIMITED

£1,554 / 6

90% Merlot | 10% Cabernet Franc | 2032 - 2075

"The 2022 L'Eglise-Clinet was picked from 3 to 9 September for the Merlot and the Cabernet Franc on 5 and 9 September, matured in 85% new oak. It has an exquisitely-defined bouquet with succinct floral, pressed iris and clay notes percolating through the black fruit. With breathtaking focus, these scents seem to cast a spell over you. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannins that frame the mineral-laden, peppery black fruit. There's not a hair out of place, exuding the essence of this Pomerol estate with an exceptionally long, intense and paradoxically tender finish. It's a wine that may leave you spellbound...just like this barrel sample. 2032-2075. **98-100 points**" NM

97-98 JS | 96-98+ JD | 98 JA

2022 Petite Eglise, Pomerol | V. LIMITED

£243 / 6

90% Merlot | 10% Cabernet Franc | 2032 - 2075

"...seductive black berries and strawberries laced with white pepper. It's harmonious and sensual on the finish. Superb. 92-94 points." Neal Martin, Vinous.com

93 points JA | 92-94 AG | 95-96 JS

2022 Château L'Evangile, Pomerol | V. LIMITED

£1,338 / 6

82% Merlot | 17.5% Cabernet Franc | 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2030-2070

"Fresh, wonderfully refined and gorgeously polished and long, with very fine tannins. Medium to full body. Crunchy fruit and chocolate, hazelnut and spice. Exciting to see how this tensioned beauty will evolve. Wonderful clarity. **96-97 points**" JS

95-97 WK | NM WK | 95-97 AG

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2022 Vieux Château Certan, Pomerol | V. LIMITED

£1650/ 6

75% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 5% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2032-2062



"...The aromatics are spellbinding with brilliant delineation and a surfeit of freshness...quintessentially Pomerol. 2032-2075. **97-99 points**" NM

"The freshness and dynamic sense to the wine is so surprising. Minerally and salty. It's full yet racy. Black ink and oyster shell. Excellent length...**98-99 points**" JS

"One of the wines of the vintage, without a doubt...Jaw-droppingly good in every sense, its deep purple hue is followed by a massive array of black cherries, violets, red plums, chocolate, and violets...voluptuously layered mouthfeel, perfect tannins, and a great, great finish...If this doesn't put a smile on your face, I don't know what will. And I'll be a buyer. **98-100 points**" JD

"...a wine of tremendous sophistication and polish... There's really not much more to say except that the 2022 is magical. **98-100 points**" AG

Fronsac & Other Right Bank

2022 Château Carlmagnus, Fronsac

£120 / 12

90% Merlot | 10% Cabernet Franc | 2027-2032

Firm and structured with medium body. Notes of bay leaf, nut shell and chalk. The tannins are tight and lightly chewy. **91-92 points**" JS

88-89+ YC

2022 Château Les Cruzelles, Lalande de Pomerol | LIMITED

£238/ 12

80% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2050



"... a hidden gem in the vintage that readers will love to have in the cellar. **92-94 points**" JD

"...This has plenty of fruité on the nose: small red cherries, redcurrant and wild strawberry fruit, a touch of cedar in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with wonderful definition and mineralité, dark fruit, hints of black tea and spices, really harmonious and sappy on the finish. Possibly the best Les Cruzelles that I have tasted at this stage and sure to be an unbeatable value-for-money. Drinking Window: 2028 - 2050. **92-94 points**" NM

"A solid red with blackberry, chocolate, walnut and hazelnut. Medium to full body. Smiley face here, thanks to the ripe seeds. **93-94 points**" JS

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2022 La Chenade, Lalande de Pomerol | V. LIMITED

£185 / 12

80% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 2028-2045

"...a bold, juicy Lalande de Pomerol. Succulent dark cherry, plum, lavender, licorice and menthol are nicely pushed forward. Soft and open-knit, with terrific fruit purity, the 2022 is exceptionally beautiful and delicious, even in the early going. **90-92 points**" AG

91-93 JD | 91 JA | 90-92 NM | 92-93 JS

2022 Château Montlandrie, Castillon, Côtes de Bordeaux

£204 / 12

75% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Franc | 5% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2029-2043

"...a powerful, driving wine. Beams of tannin and acid run through a core of bright red-toned fruit, lending notable energy and tension throughout. A wine of size and volume, Montlandrie offers tremendous intensity as well as vibrancy. Gorgeous. **92-94 points**" AG

90-92 NM | 93 JA | 91-93+ JD | 94-95 JS

2022 Château Roc de Cambes, Côtes de Bourg | LIMITED

£330 / 6

80% Merlot | 20% Cabernet Sauvignon | 2030-2055

"A bigger, riper, sexier wine, the 2022 Roc De Cambes just about jumps out of the glass with its exotic red and blue fruits as well as vanilla bean, sweet spice, and acacia flower-like aromas and flavors...a gorgeous wine that's unfortunately hard to find in the market. **93-95 points**" JD

91-93 AG | 92-94 WK | 92-94 NM

Most wines available in magnums with a £15 ex VAT surcharge per case of six. Other special formats may be available, please enquire for a quotation.

Offered en primeur, ex-chateau, due to land in the UK in Spring 2025.

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