

BORDEAUX 2022 VINTAGE TASTING NOTES

HARRIET TINDAL, MW MAY 2023



THE NEW BARREL ROOM AT CHÂTEAU LEOVILLE BARTON

FOR YOUR INTEREST, WHERE WE CAN WE HAVE INCLUDED THE BLENDS FROM 2021 AS A REFERENCE.

SAINT-ÉMILION

Despite being even drier than the Medoc in 2022 the wines of Saint-Émilion overall show the most heterogenous quality this vintage. The dry, sunny weather in September allowed the aromatics an extended period to develop. Those vineyards with a limestone base tended to have more access to water reserves than others. Surprisingly Merlot vines, specifically older stocks really stood up to the extreme conditions and have produced some exceptional wines this vintage.

Château Angelus, *withdrawn from the cru classe system 60% M, 40% CF. 14.5% abv 2021 - 13.5% 60CF 40M (normally is 50/50)

Organic since 2018. 82 ha total land, 27 under vine.

Dark fruit notes over intense redcurrant. Polished. Chalky tannic extraction, cranberry tones with lifting acid. Linear dark spiced finish. 17

Carillon d'Angelus 90% M, 10% CF

Made in its own cellar. A wine in its own right

High toned red fruit notes very polished. Lifting acid core with burnished red fruit. Warm savoury spice at the end. 17–

Château Ausone 7.25ha – 50% M, 50% CS 15.5%abv

2021 - 65% CF (4,5,6 Oct) 35% M (30th sept) 12.5%

Organic. Made from 55 year old vines. Usual production 8,000 bottles this year 2,000.

Sweet red fruit with vanilla tinted edge. Mellow silky fruit robe. Supple, very ripe, pulled back by a mineral led acid line. 17.5

Chapelle d'Ausone – 60% CF, 33% M, 5% CF

2021 - 75% CF, CS 25%, 12.5% abv.

Sweet purple fruit tones. Sweet concentrated cores. very ripe fruit. Spiced crunchy fruit on the palate, weighty but carried by a streamlined mid palate freshness. 17.5

Château Bélair-Monange, Premier Grand Cru Classé 98% M, 2% CF, 14.5%

2021 - 99% M 1%CF

23.5ha of limestone on the plateau and blue clay on limestone in slopes

High toned plum and cedar tones on the nose. Polished. Smart. Supple, linguine core. silky fruit expression. flowing, expressive. Tight redcurrant on the finish. with a lifting tannic pull on the roof of the palate. opening the fruit for a fresh and refined end. Very tight, well made. Poised. One for the future. 18.5+

Château Berliquet, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 7ha 65% M, 35% CF

2021 - 61% M, 39% CF 13.5% abv

Contained dark fruit notes on nose. Sweet vanilla led core. Crunchy notes, fragrant purple edge. Tense mineral depth. Compact finish. 17.5-

Château Canon Premier Grand Cru Classé 65% M, 25% CF

2021 - 71% M 29% CF

Soft red notes on the nose. Supple juicy purple fruit on the core, chalky tannic expression. Silky. Mellow rounded fruit with a sweet cranberry edge. Crunchy notes on edge, mineral tones on the end. 17.5+

Château Cheval Blanc, Premier Grand Cru Classé A, 53% M, 46% CF, 1% CS

2021 - 43% M, 52% CF, 5% CS

No Petit Cheval made this year.

Sweet blackcurrant core with concentrated poise. Almost minty expression on the palate. Herbal tones, dark dark chocolate. framing mineral core. Taut, prolonged smoky notes on finish Very long. Piquant blackcurrant in the very very end. 19+

Quinault L'Enclos 63% M, 20% CS, 17% CF, 14.2%abv

2021 - 59% M, CF 23%, CS 18%

18hl/ha low yields down to the frost

Crimson mulberry tones on the nose, chocolate hints. Sanguine boxtree tones, pulling a savoury edge into the wine. Broad reaching crunchy fruit finish. 17

Château Clos Fourtet, Saint-Émilion Premier Grand Cru Classé

Sweet blackcurrant led nose. Perfumed with compact but supple fruit. Very young but components in right place. Stands out from the crowd. 17

Château La Clotte, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 85% M 15% CF 57 year old vines

2021 - 85% M 15% CF 4 ha

High toned blackcurrant notes on the nose. sweet red notes too. Broad fruit with a herbal element, Lifted box-tree tones, chalky tannic waves. great mineral verve at the finish. lots of fruit. contained in the silky composition. 18-

Château Figeac, Premier Grand Cru Classé A 35% M, 34% DF, 31% CS 14%, 3,7pH, 100% new oak.

2021 - 40% CS, 29% M, 31% CF

In 1947 they started using the plunging rootstock Gravesac.. this foresight has given the vines greater access to water deep down in the soil in these more extreme vintages.

Wild cranberry, loganberry notes on the nose - damson. Supple velvety tones. chalky tannic flow. crunchy fruit core tones. saline edge carries the fruit forward. Compact grip on the finish. Ripe but contained, smoky tones emerge. chocolate comes in at the end. Thought provoking herbal hints. 18.5+

Château Juguet, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru

Lightly spiced plum notes on the nose. Warm chocolate hues, crisp acid. Lifted. Angular pepper tones. Rounded core, generous but framed by elegant filigree tannins. Long. 17++

Château Laroque, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru Classé 98% M, 2% CF

2021 - 95% M 5%CF

Intense blueberry tones on the nose. Inky boxtree notes. Evocative. Herbal tones over the taut blackcurrant core. Concentrated mid palate fruit with chalky tannins and a tightened almost grippy definition leading to peppered spice at the end. Prolonged. 19

Château Pavie, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru Classe A 52% M, 30% CF 18% CS. 3.67pH. 14.5%

Concentrated ripe blackcurrent and cherry robe. Coconut edged purple fruit. Silky, less concentrated, more feminine. Crunchy dark fruit tones, crystalline raspberry notes and a lifted box tree edge. Poised and precise on the finish. Sweet cherry tones at the end. chocolate, spice. Prolonged evolution on the palate, chocolate tones, seaweed, spice. Evocative. Excellent. 19

Aromes de Pavie 50% M, 50% CF pH3.74, 14.5%

Enticing bramble spice nose. Crunchy bramble led core. lovely mineral streak with a bright wild berry red note running through. Tense on finish. Waves of dark mineral led fruit. Compact dark finish. Chalky expression. 18.5-

Château Peymouton, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 89% M, 10% CS, 1% CF

2021 - 82% M 10% CF 8% CS

31ha. Same owners as Château Laroque

Dark cherry nose with a herbal edge. Concentrated. Perfumed edge. Taut, lifted mid palate fruit over lovely dark boxtree tones. Perfumed. Lifted freshness at the end. Long finish. Over delivers. 17 +

Château Puy Blanquet, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 80% M, 20% CF

2021 - 20% CF 80% M 13.7%

Sweet chocolatey tones on the nose. Crunchy redcurrent edge with grainy tannins over the saline edge to the finish. Red fruit carries through. 17-

Château Troplong-Mondot 85% M, 13% CS, 2%CF 15%

Sitting on clay base at 110m, reduced water stress and gave cooler nights. 35 year old vines average.

Low sulphur use in the winery. Dark fruit notes on the nose, hint of prune. Tight textural core with juicy mid palate fruit. Redcurrant notes. Aromatic perfumed tones. Juicy fruit on the finish Savoury edge adds depth on the finish. Moorish style, saline finish. 18-

POMEROL / LALANDE DE POMEROL

Merlot has really risen to the challenge this year. Older stocks, specifically those on some of the more famous clay sites of the right bank have excelled, producing wines of character and poise.

Château de Bel-Air 70% M, 20% CF, 10% CS

15ha Gravel on Clay, iron rich sub soil.

Confectioned, ripe red fruit nose. Juicy fruit palate, filigree tannic grip at the sides. Precise central verve. chalky core. Sustaining on the finish. decent damson emerge. Great complexity. 17

Château Bourgneuf, 85% M, 15% CF

2021 - 85% M 15% CF

9ha on gravel and clay iron rich subsoil

Saline almost seaweedy with darker foresty notes on the nose. Concentrated fruit. Sweet chalky tannic structure, lifted core. Plenty of tannins mid palate, lifting the dark fruit.

Long toast led finish. 17+

Château Certan de May 60% M, 30% CF, 10% CS

2021 - 60% M 30% CF 10% CS

5.5 ha on clay and deep gravel

Intriguing seaweedy notes on the nose with a herbal, boxtree element. Lovely wild fruit on the palate. Really charismatic. Evocative. tight defining tannins at the end. A fantastic wine this year. 18.5

Château Chantalouette (second wine of de Sales) 72% M, 15% CF, 13% CS

47.5 ha Small gravel and iron rich loess

Bramble fruit notes on nose. Boxtree carries through to palate, mellow supple fruit, great sheen with red spice polish. Great fruit concentration on the sides lifted by finessed tannins and juicy freshness. Great longevity. 17.

Château La Conseillante 87%M, 13% CF

2021 - 85% M, 15% CF 13.3% abv.

3% amphoras, 70% new oak

Blackberry purity runs through the core. incredible confectioned fruit tones. Lifted and fragrant. Very primary, very pure. long crystalline fruit purity on the finish. 18.5

Château La Grave 89% M, 11% CF

8ha. Gravel and fine clay

Sweet blueberry tones, open pure. Lifted fragrant red fruit, fine, perfumed. Juicy core with lively perfumed fruit. elegant. effusive with a dark mineral linearity subtly carrying the fruit through the core. Long. lovely 17.5

Château L'Evangile 14.5% 82% M, 17.5% CF, 0.5% CS

Certified organic

2021 - 69% M, 30% CF, 1% CS

Perfumed blackberry fruit, silky tannins, crunchy blue fruit expression. Lifted acid tones. Dark chocolatey tannic grip. powdery cocoa like feel. Poised. Concentrated and everlasting on the finish. Excellent density. One for the future. 18.5+

Château La Fleur-Pétrus 96.5% M, 3% CF, .5%PV

2021 - 95% M 4% CF 1% PV

18.7ha on deep gravel and clay on iron rich subsoil.

Perfumed damson fruit nose. Open supple mid palate fruit, velvety robe, soft strawberry and redcurrant. Piqued by spice and a moorish damson tone. Fine acid lines. powerful core of mineral spice. Warm, long chocolate end. 17+

Château La Grave 89% M, 11% CF

2021 - 96% M 4% CF

8ha on gravel and fine clay

Sweet blueberry tones, open pure. Lifted fragrant red fruit, fine, perfumed. Juicy core with lively perfumed fruit. elegant. effusive with a dark mineral linearity subtly carrying the fruit through the core. Long. 17.5

Château Lagrange, Pomerol, 100% Merlot

9 ha Gravel on clay and old, deep, blue clay

Warm red fruit notes on the nose. Layered fruit on palate. Gentle extraction, softer approach. elegant balanced core. Framing acid with a linear cross palate streak. Chocolate tints on the finish. Excellent. 18

Château Nenin 64% M 36% CF pH 3.69 14.28%

Soft extraction during fermentation, fine tuning with press wine post fermentation. Purple berried black fruit on the nose. Sanguine silky core, perfumed, peppery tones. Very dark fruit on the core. peppered tones. Liquorice. 90% chocolate. Seamless tannic integration. Velvet fruit emerges on the finale. 17

Château Petit Village

Sweet blackcurrants on the core with damson and cranberry generosity at the sides. Elegant tannic structure. Framing. Helps the finish persist. The best of recent vintages. 17-

Château Trotanoy 96%M, 4% CF

2021 - 100% M

7.2 ha gravel on clay with black clay on iron

Warm dark cherry and red currant spice on the nose. Palate has saline filigree tannic expression with juicy fruit and warm plum based spice. Lifted but concentrated core. Great density at the end. 17.5

PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

Each year this commune gets stronger. Really impressed with the definition and mineral drive in this year's vintage.

Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion, cru classé de Graves 40% CF, 34% CS, 26% M. 13.5% abv

2021 - 40% CF, 35% CS, 25% M 13.5% abv.

70% whole bunch. 70% new oak, 20% new foudres 18hl 10% amphora (half clay, half sandstone) Dark blueberry fruit on the nose, liquorice tones. Blackberry leads the palate with a complex peppery spice. Unctuous tannins, grippy, yet mineral led. Graphite lends weight on the finish. Defined, lifted, evolving length. Layers of fruit definition carry through. 18.5

Le 'C' des Carmes 60% CS, 39% M, 1% PV 13.5% abv

2021 - 62% CS, 36% M, 2% PV

Some whole bunch. Used infusion - keeping the cap submerged under the fermenting wine. 20% new barrels, 70% foudres, 8 % Sandstone amphoras.

Intense blackcurrant led fruit on the nose. Concentrated. Powerful aromas. Blueberry notes. Sweet blackberry notes. Grainy tannins with perfumed blackcurrant on the finish. Sweet pretty fruit. Saline on finish. 16.5

Domaine de Chevalier, Grand Cru Classé de Graves

In organic conversion.

Tight blackcurrant tones on the nose. carry that precision and definition onto the palate. Grippy but defining tannins. direct dark core carries through to a long chalky finish. Refined. elegant. Great anniversary label.

17.5+

Domaine de Chevalier Blanc

In organic conversion.

Pear, melon, verging on the exotic on the nose. Lightly spiced mineral led core. peach and waxy lemon tones. almond edge on the finish. Confident. 17+

Clos des Lunes, Lune d'Argent 70% S, 30% SB

In organic conversion.

Exotic peach blossom on the nose. Saline drive with white flowers and stony base. Fresher style, linear. Peach notes elevate the finish 17-

Clos des Lunes, Lune d'Or

In organic conversion.

More restrained nose, textural exotic tones to the palate. Vanilla hints, More complexity. Greater breadth. Lingering richness poised at the finish. Long 18

Château Haut-Bailly Grand Cru Classé de Graves 56% CS, 37% M, 5% PV, 2% CF. 3.92pH

2021 - 65% CS, 22% M, 10% PV 3% CF 13% abv

Powdered fruit expression, layered, dark bramble fruits. Tight blackcurrant core, filigree juicy edge. lifted structuring tannins carry the fruit. Restrained. slightly hidden at the moment. Blueberry on finish. sustaining. Saline. 17

Haut-Bailly II 65%M, 30% CS, 3% CF, 2% PV, 14.5%

2021 - 70% M, 25% CS, 3% CF, 2% PV 13%

Fragrant violet and blueberry fruit notes. Crunchy core, tight tannin core, mellow fruit led sides. lovely acid, lifting the edges, sweet be fruit notes comes in at the end. elegant. 17

Château Haut-Brion 54% M, 35% CS, 11%CF

2021 - 50% M, 38% CS

Pure blackcurrant tones on the nose. Linear. Precise. PURITY. Saline sanguine mid palate. dark spice, tobacco tones. ample fruit, supple. grippy edge to the tannins. Sweet spice on finish adds a layer. Brooding at end. Long. Complete 18.5

Château Haut-Brion Blanc

2021 - 55% S 45% SB

Frangipane distinctly floral notes on the nose. Exotic fruit tones. pear, spiced tarte-tartin.

Rounded generous fruit on finish. zesty mineral edge carries the lemon zest, crystalline exotic tones on end.

17-

Château Smith Haut Lafitte Grand Cru Classé de Graves 64% CS, 32% M, 3% CF, 1% PV

2021 - 63% CS, 33% M, 3% CF, 1% PV

Dark chocolate notes on the nose, almost anise. steroidal fruit. Very forward ripe, with grippy side tannins and toasty tones. lifted graphite on finish. Concentrated with long herbal tones on the finish. Will be intriguing to see with age. 17-

Château Smith Haut Lafitte Grand Cru Classé de Graves Blanc 90% SB 5% SB 5% SG

2021 - 90% SB 5% S 5% SG

50% new oak

Exotic floral notes on the nose. Warm peach and cinnamon spice on core. saline minerality sustains for ever. Hint of nuttiness on the finish that drives the finish. 18

PAUILLAC

Seriously impressive wines this year. Mineral tones ran through the best, a sense of terroir expression was great to see. Oak was very much hidden behind glorious fruit expression and layers of complexity in most. The perceived acidity in these wines, along with the elegant tannic structure makes for exceptionally promising drinking in the mid to long term.

Château d'Armhailhac, Grand Cru Classé 60% CS, 22% M, 16% CF, 2% PV

Open bramble fruit nose, boxtree edge. Chalky tannins carry the ample plum and blackberry fruit tones. Core of mineral acid layers the perfumed fruit. Hint tobacco, cassis. long, dense finish. carried by the perception of freshness from the minerality. 18-

Château Clerc-Milon 52% CS 40% M, 5% CF, 2% Carm, 1% PV 14.5%

2021 - 59% CS 28% M 10% CF 1.5% C 1.5% PV

Perfumed black fruit nose. lifted, hints of vanilla, violets. Sweet attack. So supple, polished. Acid is integral, warmer notes at end. oak is present on the palate. sweet, spicy. Very long finish. chalky 17---

Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Grand Cru Classé 79% CS, 21% M

2021 - 85% CS 15% M

Sweet blackcurrant fruit tones, fragrant, ripe. Grainy tannic expression. Underlay of mineral Deliciously long and fragrant 17.5++

Lacoste Borie (second wine of GPL) 56%CS, 35% M, 9% CF

2021 - 56% CS 36% M 8% CF

Dark bramble fruits on the nose. Taut, blueberry edged fruit palate. Dark core, blackcurrants just ripe. Crunchy, aromatic tones perfumed in the long finish. 17

Château Haut-Bages-Liberal*, Grand Cru Classé 87% CS, 13% M

Claire used a ferment with whole berries to encourage almost semi-carbonic maceration resulting in effusive and delicious tannins.

On chalky Soil. Dark redcurrant edged fruit. Chalky, long plums and blackberry tones on the finish. Full of life and definition. Will be good value. 17.5+

Château Haut-Batailley

Tight but elegant structure, generous savoury edge. Has some soul. Lovely chocolate redcurrant pique at end. 17+

Château Lafite Rothschild 94%CS, 5% M, 1%PV

Perfumed forest fruit nose, contained. Polished, damson and blackberry core. Supple, chalky tannic structure. Seamless. Mineral chocolate mix with chalky tension at end. Dark liquorice, mocha, contained. 17.5++

Carruades de Lafite 53% CS, 40% M, 4% CF, 3% PV

High toned damson and redcurrant nose. Supple massively integrated tannins, seamless. Taut mineral core drives the open fruit character. crunchy blackcurrant leaf over a peppered core at finish. Long and elegant 17.5+

Château Latour, 1er Grand Cru Classé 97.1% CS, 2.6% M, .3% PV

2021 - 96% CS 4% M

Two thirds of the estate is farmed biodynamically

Tight blackcurrant restraint on nose. Broad silky fruit expression. brambles, condensed tannins, securing the fruit, carrying the freshness to the end. Dark chocolate tethered to black plum. Almost chewy tightness. Long berried tension. 18.5-

Les Forts de Latour 65.2% CS, 33% M, 1% PV, .8% CF

2021 - 61% CS 32% M 7% PV

Intense black cherry notes on nose. Tight saline led dark fruit. Searing acid sides with taut outer tannins. Juicy red currant fruit finish. Hint of spice. 17++

Château Lynch Bages, Grand Cru Classé

Sweet berries tones on the nose. Chocolatey red currant notes tight at the centre. Lifted mineral note on finish. Powdery tannins at end. 17.5

Echo de Lynch Bages 64% CS, 31% M, 5% CF

Cassis led notes on the nose. Tighter redcurrant core. Crunchy fruit. Dark but evocative. Tight ripe tannins, integrated. compact at finish. Well-made. 17-

Château Mouton Rothschild, 1er Grand Cru Classé 90% CS, 8% M

2021 - 87% CS 10% M 1% CF

Inky cedar and cassis on the nose, suggestion of opulence. Supple, polish fruit robe. Seamless. Chalky effect. Full bodied. Silky fruit. Perfume surrounds the super integrated framing tannins. A journey through the fruits. plum, damson, blackcurrant, all pure, tight, concentrated. Very sanguine. elegant. 19.5

Le Petit Mouton 71% CS, 19% M, 3% PV

2021 - 77% CS 19.5% M 3% CF .5% PV

Interesting earthy expression, more damson than black fruit. tight framing tannins, textured at the side of the palate. Chocolate notes. Very fresh and pulled back at the finish. Fruit re-emerges. graphite carries through. 17

Château Pedesclaux CS 68%, M 22%, CF 7%, PV 3%

Organic this year

Fragrant plum led notes on nose. More primary mid palate fruit. Tight. supple. concentrated core. saline freshness on the mid palate. sweet fruit expression on the finish. 17--

Château Pichon Baron, Grand Cru Classé 81% CS, 19% M

2021 - 88% CS 12% M

High toned blackcurrant leaf notes dark fruit. Concentrated yet supple, sweet vanilla tones. Taut frame, textured core. Dense but linear core. Chocolate cherry on the finish. 17.5-

Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande, Grand Cru Classé 78% CS, 17% M, 5% CF

2021 - 88% CS 10% CF 2% M

Sweet blackcurrant notes with cranberry edge. Soft, chalky nature to the tannins. Acid is frontal helping the tannins through the palate. Soft plum tones edge the core. Violet perfume piques the finish. Polished purity.

Reserve de Lalande 78% CS 17% M 5% CF

Fragrant blueberry fruit notes on the nose, peppery dark tones. Supple pure plum notes on the core. Tight chalky expression on the second wave. Dark dark chocolate tones. mineral depth at the end. 17++

Château Pontet Canet, Grand Cru Classé 57% CS, 35% M, 4% CF, 4% PV

50% new oak, 35% amphora, 15% 1 year old barriques. Average age of vines 55 years. 19 years in biodynamics. Restrained concentrated dark fruit notes on the nose. Full bodied, almost mouth filling. super ripe tannins. enigmatic, herbal notes in the core. Filigree acid tension on the finish. long precise finish. Tunnelling finesse at the end. very drinkable 18.5++

SAINT ESTEPHE

Sitting in the North of the Medoc, Saint Estephe enjoyed cooler conditions and the influence of the Atlantic in 2022. Château x like Montrose, share the same Cabernet and Merlot terraces as Latour, but they are closer to the sea. This can only be something to watch for the future.

Château Calon Segur, Grand Cru Classé 70% CS, 24% M, 5% CF, 1% PV. 15% abv. 100% new oak.

2021 - 92% CS 11% CF 7% M 1% PV 12.9% abv.

Scented redcurrant and blackberry polished nose. Gentle fruit, well integrated with juicy acid notes, redcurrant core. Tight tannic grip. on the edge. Bountiful fruit to carry this. Chalky notes on mineral finish. Warm at end. 17

Château Cos d'Estournel, Grand Cru Classé 61% CS, M 37%, CF 1%, PV1%

2021 - 64% CS, 39% M, 4% CF, 2% PV

Vines on average 55 years old. Some of the Merlot dates back to 1915. The gravel plateau it's planted on lends the trademark spiciness to the blend.

Dark bramble fruit nose. Textured grainy core, peppered and dark. Lifted graphite drive at the end. Savoury edge. Classic, smart. 17.5

Pagode de Cos

2021 - 60% M 36% CS 3% CF 1% PV

40 year old Merlot vines grown on clay, which helps with freshness and generosity.

Concentrated ripe blackcurrant fruit on the nose. Fragrant blueberry tones on palate. Tight but lifted notes mid palate. dark chocolate. Concentrated, but elegant with linear mineral notes driving the finish. 17+

Château Cos Labory

High toned black fruit on the nose. Taut dark layered complexities. Chalky tannins lovely acid mineral lift at end. 17.5

Château Montrose, Grand Cru Classé 66% CS, 25% M, 8% CF, 1% PV 14.5%

2021 - 62% CS 31% M 6% CF 1% PV

Sweet black fruit core. Full concentrated fruit, contained by filigrees, delicate tannins. Tight very linear core. liquorice. Sweet small berries. Mellow fruit. elegant. Perfumed on finish. Complete. Long. 18-

Château Phelan Segur, 56% M, 2% CF, 40% CS, 2 PV. 14.2% abv

Bright blackcurrant fruit notes on the nose. Confectioned ripeness. Primary supple damson and blackberry core. looser more expressive fruit, savoury essence lovely warm red fruit spice. Leather tones, supple ripe finish. 17-

Château Tronquoy-Lalande, Grand Cru Classé

2021 - 48% CS 40% M 12% PV

In organic conversion.

Dark berried fruit notes, ripe blueberry hues. Tight ripe tannins, integrated and round. Lifted notes on the palate. dusty feel, great composure, mineral depth at the core. finesse. Persistent black finish. 17.5

SAINT-JULIEN

Dark fruited this year with those specific 2022 chalky tannins. The expression of Cabernet is very strong this year with the concentrated cores suggestive of years of evolutionary expression.

Château Beychevelle, Grand Cru Classé 54% CS, 42% M, 4% PV

2021 - 57% CS 38% M

Soft chalky tannins bright purple fruit tones. soft damson fruit. warm spice on the finish. Chalky mineral finish. Mellow. 17.25

Château Branaire Ducru, Grand Cru Classé 60.5% CS, 31.5% M, 5.5% CF, 2.5% PV. 14.3% abv

2021 - 66% CS, 22% M, 5.5% PV, 6.5% CF 13%

Intense perfumed purple fruit tones. Concentrated. Tight granular core. Supple mid palate fruit. Tight, grippy tones. Rounded blackcurrant notes congregate on the finish. Long 17+

Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, Grand Cru Classé 82% CS, 18% M

2021 - 98% CS 12.5% abv

Tight blueberry fruit on the nose. Compact, ripe robe, blackberry fruit with mineral tension holding through the core. Tight integrated tannic core, focal - drawing the fruit in. One to age. Long long term. 17.5++

La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou 66% M, 2% PV, 32% CS

2021 - 64% CS 32% M 4% PV 12.5% abv

Comes from a cluster of vineyards 30ha in centre of the appellation

Dark bramble fruit tones on the nose. Supple broad fruit character on the palate. Mouth filling fruit, perfumed. Grippy tannins, integrated, balanced. Defined mineral note at the end. Chocolate hint on end. A lesson in winemaking perfection. 17.5+

Le Petit Ducru 14%

2021 - 80% M, 12% CS 8% PV

Saline blueberry nose, herbaceous edge. Sweet redcurrant spice on the core. grainy tannic grip, integrated with finesse. Polished tannins. Impressed - lovely composition. 17++

Château Langoa Barton, Grand Cru Classé 56.5% CS, 41% M, 2.5% CF

2021 - 61% CS 36% M 3% CF

Crystalline blueberry notes on the nose. Sweet purple fruit. Vibrant, supple. High toned.

Chocolatey tones with blackberry robe. Tethered to a linear acid core. 17--

Château Leoville-Barton, Grand Cru Classé, 83% CS, 11.5% M, 5.5% CF

2021 - 84% CS 11% M 5% CF

Tight vanilla led blackcurrant robe – restrained elegant supple fruit. linear with a padding of juicy fruit on the edge. Sweet redcurrant notes on the finish and at the core. Vanilla tints. Perfumed notes on finish. VERY elegant. Very smooth. Very good 18.5+

Château Leoville Poyferré, Grand Cru Classé 58% CS, 34% M, 4% CF, 4% PV

Sweet purple fruit tones, crunchy ripe fruit, blueberry tones. Cedar tones. chalky finish. a redcurrant core. 17--

MARGAUX

Perfume was certainly elevated this year, backed with ripe open fruit tones. The extraction was on point, with dreamy chalky textured tannins that carried the perfume beautifully. There are some new Château x featured in the notes from the Villars-Lurton stable. Full disclosure: we enjoyed a lovely supper with Claire and Gonzague. But their sustainable ethos, full drive on biodynamics and work on reduction on Sulphur are all so on point. The wines were fantastic and I would not hesitate in recommending all of them. They are marked with * below.

Château Angludet, Grand Cru Classé

Biodynamic

Aromatic perfume to the nose. Orange blossom on the palate. Languine, supple palate. Perfumed but concentrated. Interesting 17

Château Durfort-Vivens* 84% CS 16% M

Certified biodynamic in 2016. Longest harvest ever. Over one month and a half.

More redcurrant fruit notes on the nose. bramble led raspberry crunchy peppered notes on the core, blackberry base over saline finish. 17.5+

Château Ferrieres*

Evocative hard cheese and blackcurrant tones on the nose again. Full bodied, violet notes, crunchy fruit tones. Saline earthy hints. chalky tannic grip. Lovely chocolate tinted finish. Lively, crunchy more 'from the land'. 17

Château Kirwan

Elegant restrained classic nose. Lifted bramble fruit on palate. Sweet redcurrant core. Charming. Pretty. Not clumsy. 17-

Château La Gurgue* 53% CS 30% M 17% PV, 13.25% abv

Dark fruit, gamey note - they call it incense - similar to that in Pontet Canet - grows on the plateau of Margaux. Cheesy richness, hugely plush fruit. Powdered tannins. Great density of fruit. Lifted chalky edge. forest floor notes on the finish. Perfumed finish. 17.5

Château Margaux, 1er Grand Cru Classé 92% CS, 5% M, 3% CF

2021 - 70% CS 8% M 3% CF 2% PV 13.1% abv.

Restrained nose, tight dark fruits. Sanguine blackcurrant core. ample fruit, concentrated. taut edge lifted by the violet perfume. Dark core, but linear, striking. Juicy red fruit notes integrate the finish. carrying the perfume at the end. Almost perfect. 19

Pavillon Rouge 64% CS, 24% M, 5% CF, 7% PV

2021 - 73%CS 18% M 5% PV 4% CF 13.1% abv

Warm redcurrant tones on the nose, open, slightly spiced. Sanguine tones, ethereal lifted perfume. Tight cranberry core. chalky textured tannins. Soft supple perfumed. classic, enticing. VG 17.5+

Pavillon Blanc 50% SB, 50% SEM

2021 - 100% SB

Intense apricot and peach on the nose, floral blossom tones. Palate has high glycerol notes, waxy apple expression. acid is delicate almost filigree. dances on the finish. Mineral depth at end. 17

Château Palmer, Grand Cru Classé 51% CS, 40% M, 9% PV

2021 – 56% M, 41% CS, 3% PV

Certified biodynamic in 2017.

Blackcurrants, blueberry fruit. Crunchy fruit exposure, framing acid structure. chalky tannic notes on the end. saline core carries through. Dark dark finish. Very long. 17.5+

Alter Ego, Château Palmer 51% M, 45% CS, 4% PV. 14.2% pH 3.73

2021 - 60% CS 32% M 8% PV

Tight black cherries on the nose, Open Fragrant. Linear with lifted balck fruit. Saline, intense dark fruit core. Very long. 16.5++

Château Rauzan-Segla, Grand Cru Classé

Mulberry black fruit on the nose, fragrant lifted. Crunchy fragrant fruit, sweet blackcurrant core, lovely chalky tannic robe. Great density on the finish. lifted however by the acid tones. Lovely - a good value option. 17.25

HAUT-MÉDOC/ MOULIS EN MEDOC

Don't be put off by the shortage of tasting notes in this section. We only publish wines that have achieved scores of 17+, which is the equivalent of 94 / 100. If you have questions about wines we may have tasted please just get in touch.

Château Beaumont 65% CS, 30% M, 5% PV

Warm bramble fruit tones on the nose. Chalky notes to tannins. Well presented fruit. Concentrated yet framed. Freshness drives finish. More fruit than some 16.5+

Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Medoc, 55% M, 36% CS, 9% CF 2021 - 52% CS 48%M 13% abv.

Bramble fruit tones on the nose. Sweet plum fruit at the core. Great life. chalky tannic notes. decent chocolate hinted core. 17--





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TASTING AT CHÂTEAU AUSONE

BORDEAUX OFFER - MAY 2023

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