
Bordeaux Futures 2015

FRANCE - DESSERT WINE

BORDEAUX

CARMES DE RIEUSSEC 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Carmes de Rieussec is a blend of 87% Semillon, 7% Sauvignon Blanc and 6% Muscadelle. It has a gorgeous lemon curd, honeysuckle and vanilla-scented bouquet that transcends what you consider to be a deuxième vin. The palate is very well balanced with a crisp line of acidity, very harmonious with fine weight and tension. This is a delightful Sauternes from the Rieussec team that should drink early, but clearly has the substance to age. Drink: 2018-2030. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0472092 (S) 375mL **\$21.00**

CHÂTEAU CANTEGRIL 2015

TASTING NOTE: Intense grilled pineapple, crystallised ginger and fresh citrus aromas. Rich, dense and tactile flavours of mango and papaya, with orange marmalade nuances. Lovely wine. Same soil as Doisy-Daëne, but a little lower in altitude and in refinement. Is this the best Cantegril ever? Drinking window: 2018-2022. Score - 90 (Ian D'Agata, decanter.com)

0470161 (S) 375mL **\$19.00**

CHÂTEAU CLIMENS 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Climens was tasted from different lots (after naughty Bérénice Lurton had successfully duped me with her April Fool's joke by saying that she had done a final blend). The fruit was picked from 8 September until 4 October at 21 hl/ha. The residual sugar is 130 grams per liter this year. Aromas that spring from samples included acacia honey, orange blossom, grapefruit and a little frangipane, all beautifully defined and gaining intensity in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with a viscous opening, a dash of spice on the entry, lively in the mouth with ginger and a dash of pepper tincturing the honeyed fruit, long and sustained as it fans out with vigor. This is a fabulous Climens from Bérénice Lurton and her team, and as usual, those with wise heads will opt to lay bottles down for 15 years to get the most from this special Barsac. It is destined to be a great Climens - and that's no April Fool's joke. Drink: 2025-2060. Score - 96-98 (robertparker.com)

0471920 (S) 375mL **\$59.00**

CHÂTEAU COUTET 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Coutet comes with 153 grams per liter of residual sugar at 13.8% alcohol. It has a fragrant bouquet with acacia honey, citrus scents and a touch of melted butter, all very well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with impressive purity, those limestone soils imparting the acidity that defined this Barsac, and lending great precision and tension on the live-wire finish. This is a wonderful Coutet that feels energetic - a compressed spring coil that will drink earlier than the likes of Climens or de Fargues, but has the DNA to age gracefully over 25-30 years. Drink: 2019-2050. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0469668 (S) 375mL **\$34.00**

CHÂTEAU DOISY DAËNE 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Doisy-Daene has a detailed bouquet, very correct, nothing showy or flamboyant as is typical of Denis Dubourdieu's Barsac. The palate is extremely well balanced and very pure: citrus fruit infusing the honeyed botrytis, veins of white peach and quince, leading to a very precise and sustained finish that leaves you with a smile on your face...and the wine ain't even finished yet! Just a wonderful wine - full of class and nascent joie-de-vivre. Chapeau Denis! Drink: 2019-2050. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0470328 (S) 375mL **\$32.00**

CHÂTEAU DOISY-VÉDRINES 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Doisy-Vedrines has quite an intense nose, perhaps less fat and honeyed than recent vintages, more finesse if not quite capturing the same level of details as the Doisy-Daëne this year. The palate is very promising with layers of honeyed fruit tinged with white chocolate and almond, a lovely swagger about this Doisy-Vedrines that reminds me of great vintages such as 1989. Always well priced, you won't harm your cellar with a case of Olivier Castèja's sumptuous Barsac. Drink: 2019-2040. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0469619 (S) 375mL **\$29.00**

CHÂTEAU FILHOT 2015

2er Cru

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. Intense, with ripe, focused apricot, peach and almond notes driving through, gilded by hints of orange blossom and honeysuckle. The finish is lush and rounded, with a subtle hazelnut edge. Has power and purity. Score range: 92-95. Score - 92-95 (winespectator.com)

0469551 (S) 375mL **\$21.00**

CHÂTEAU GUIRAUD 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Guiraud, tasted in two occasions, has a sumptuous bouquet with scents of wild honey, apricot and a faint smear of marmalade. The palate is fresh and tensile on the entry, brimming with energy with impressive energy towards the blood orange and quince-tinged finish. This is a stylish, suave Guiraud that should age beautifully in bottle. Drink: 2020-2045. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0469577 (S) 375mL **\$37.00**

CHÂTEAU RIEUSSEC 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Rieussec, a blend of 86% Semillon and 14% Sauvignon Blanc, was picked over five tries through the vineyard between 9 September and 27 October. "We had a bit of frost towards the end and 10% was harvested afterwards. The quality was affected and this was put into the second wine," winemaker Eric Kohler informed me. This year the grand vin constitutes between one-third and one-fourth of the total crop. It has a fragrant bouquet, of honey, white almond and peach, that is disarmingly seductive. The palate is refined and poised: a lovely thread of acidity here, with a keen mineral-laden finish that leaves the mouth tingling with pleasure. This is a top-tier Rieussec that hits all the right buttons. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0472183 (S) 375mL **\$52.00**

CHÂTEAU SUDUIRAUT 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Suduiraut comes with 123 grams per liter of residual sugar, more modest than some of its Sauternes peers and 4.56 grams per liter of acidity. It has a sense of completeness on the nose already: immense clarity with wild honey and quince aromas that gain intensity in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with very pure botrytised fruit, very focused and one of the most intense Sauternes you will find this year. It feels long and sophisticated in the mouth yet never overpowers, never really has to put its foot right down on the accelerator. This is a wonderful Suduiraut, not quite up to the level of the ethereal 2009...although not too far off. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0470203 (S) 375mL **\$57.00**

FRANCE - WHITE WINE

BORDEAUX

AILE D'ARGENT 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Aile d'Argent Blanc, a blend of 55% Sauvignon Blanc, 43% Sémillon and 2% Muscadelle, has an attractive bouquet of lime cordial, pink grapefruit and apricot that gently unfolds in the glass. The palate is very well balanced with a keen thread of acidity that runs through waxy-textured fresh pear, grapefruit and lime notes. There is just a touch of malolactic fermentation here (actually around 7% of the total according to winemaker Philippe Dhalluin) that just lends cohesion and smoothness to the finish. With a dash of lemongrass loitering on the aftertaste, this is a very fine Aile d'Argent that should age well over the course of a decade, possibly more. Drink: 2019-2032. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0476028 (XD) 750mL **\$129.00**

CHÂTEAU CARBONNIEUX BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: Great definition, this has soft white flowers with a graphite kick on the finish. Floral aromatics add a lift - this is one of the fresher whites of the vintage. Drinking Window: 2017-2027. Score - 92 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0475244 (XD) 750mL **\$52.00**

CHATEAU DE CHANTEGRIVE CUVÉE CAROLINE BLANC 2015

TASTING NOTE: This wine proves year after year that white Graves is an underrated category. Excellent grip and ripe apricot, peach, citrus zest and marmalade from an even blend of Sauvignon and Semillon barrel fermented in 50% new oak. Drinking Window: 2016-2021. Score - 91 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0470237 (XD) 750mL **\$31.00**

CHÂTEAU DE FIEUZAL BLANC 2015

TASTING NOTE: A very attractive mix of fresh citrus with rich apricot running through - one of the 2015s that has managed to scoop up some acidity from the ripe grapes. 55% Sauvignon Blanc and 45% Semillon aged in 30% new oak barrels. Drinking Window: 2018-2028. Score - 91 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0472118 (XD) 750mL **\$75.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRION BLANC 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: An outstanding white. 69% Sauvignon Blanc, 31% Semillon with a pH of 3.14 (the lowest since 2010). This is focused and stunningly aromatic, even though Jean-Philippe Delmas is happy to call this a red wine year for the château. That may be so, but this is a beautiful wine: textured, taut and pointedly searching, with great structure and integrity to the citrus fruit and vertical lift on the finish. Clearly going to age beautifully. 14.3% abv. Drinking Window: 2018-2030. Score - 96 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0475764 (XD) 750mL **\$1,500.00**

CHÂTEAU LA MISSION HAUT-BRION BLANC 2015

TASTING NOTE: Delicate but powerful, this has beautiful aromatics, the bite of a fresh peach and a wonderful sense of roundness without being heavy. Gorgeous. Fairly typical blend of 67% Semillon, 33% Sauvignon Blanc. This is going to age beautifully thanks to its clear sense of vibrancy and well-defined strands of flavour. 3.18pH, 50% new oak, 14.6% abv. Drinking Window: 2018-2030. Score - 95 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0475749 (XD) 750mL **\$1,100.00**

CHÂTEAU LARRIVET HAUT-BRION BLANC 2015

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. There's alluring richness here, with an anise hint underscoring the yellow apple, white peach and verbena notes, gaining depth steadily with air. Offers a long, shortbread-enhanced finish. Score - 90-93 (winespectator.com)

0472167 (XD) 750mL **\$57.00**

CHÂTEAU LATOUR-MARTILLAC BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Tour Martillac has a gorgeous, complex nose, subtle pear and green apple scents, a whiff of the old sea spray coming in from the Atlantic. The palate is very well balanced with crisp acidity, very complex in the mouth with lip-smacking salinity towards the finish. What a fabulous white Bordeaux from the estate, certainly one of the best that I have ever encountered. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0475814 (XD) 750mL **\$55.00**

CHÂTEAU MALARTIC-LAGRAVIÈRE BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Malartic Lagraviere Blanc is a blend of 85% Sauvignon Blanc and 15% Semillon that was picked from 8-15 September and matured in 65% new oak. It has a crisp, vibrant, quite minerally bouquet, cold limestone and subtle patisserie/almost whipped cream-like scents. The palate is very well defined with a crisp line of acidity, citrus lemon and lime fanning out with confidence on the finish that completes one of the best Malartic-Lagravière whites that I have encountered at this stage. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0474882 (XD) 750mL **\$89.00**

CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The Pape Clément Blanc is remarkably vivid for such a big wine. Sweet, open and expansive, the 2015 graces the palate with layers of baked apple, ripe pear, candied lemon. Most of the wine was vinified in oak, which gives the Blanc its shape, texture and volume. Exotic flowers, mint, orchard fruit and chamomile are some of the signatures, but it is the wine's energy and tension allied to the natural phenolic intensity of this site that is most compelling. The decrease in Sémillon and a move towards larger format barrels are two of the recent developments here. This is a head-spinning white from Bernard Magrez and his team. The blend is 50% Sauvignon Blanc, 40% Sémillon and 10% Sauvignon Gris. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0472076 (XD) 750mL **\$229.00**

CHÂTEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Smith-Haut-Lafitte Blanc is a blend of 90% Sauvignon Blanc, 5% Sauvignon Gris and 5% Sauvignon Blanc matured in 50% new oak. It has a crisp, conservative bouquet, tightly wound at first, reticent even, though with a couple of minutes' swirling, it reveals intense fresh lime flower, pink grapefruit, guava and blood orange scents. The palate is extremely well balanced with a silver bead of acidity, a dab of sour lemon than cleanses the mouth, followed by pink grapefruit, citrus lemon and green apple notes towards the long finish. This is another outstanding white Smith-Haut-Lafitte from winemaker Fabien Tietgen and the famille Cathiard. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0474296 (XD) 750mL **\$149.00**

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER BLANC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: One of the clear wines of the vintage, the 2015 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc is a stunner. Rich and intense, yet also finely cut, the 2015 dazzles from the very first taste. A host of lemon confit, white peach and slate notes race across the palate. Remarkably fresh and vivid, the 2015 offers an alluring interplay of textural creaminess and energy. I imagine the 2015 will age effortlessly for decades, as these wines do. The 2015 is 70% Sauvignon Blanc and 30% Sémillon, fermented in barrel, with blocked malo. Domaine de Chevalier's Blanc remains a reference point, perhaps the reference point, for dry white wine in Bordeaux. Don't miss it! Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0475533 (XD) 750mL **\$159.00**

PAVILLON BLANC 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Pavillon Blanc, 100% Sauvignon Blanc, is bright, finely sculpted and classically understated in style. Citrus, white flowers, white pepper, mint and green pear abound. Weightless, translucent and also wonderfully taut, the Pavillon Blanc is one of the great white wines of the year. The nuanced, saline finish suggests the 2015 has a bright future. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0475350 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

FRANCE - RED WINE

BORDEAUX

ALTER EGO 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Palmer

TASTING NOTE: 93-95. Barrel Sample. This is a beautifully perfumed wine. It has ripe black fruits that shoot through the richness. It has a velvet texture, rounded and already smooth. There is just a shot of tannin and the hint of wood at the end. Score - 94 (Wine Enthusiast)

0474825 (XD) 750mL **\$105.00**

BORDEAUX COLLECTION 2015

The 2015 vintage Bordeaux Collection includes nine wines: Ausone (RP 95-97), Cheval Blanc (RP 97-99), Haut-Brion (RP 98-100), Lafite Rothschild (DEC 96), Margaux (RP 98-100), La Mission Haut-Brion (RP 97-99), Mouton Rothschild (RP 97-99), Pétrus (RP 98-100), and d'Yquem.

0477091 (XD) 6750m **\$12,000.00**

CHAPELLE D'AUSONE 2015

Grand Cru, 2nd Wine of Ch. Ausone

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Chapelle d'Ausone is a fabulous second wine. Lavender, mint, violet, smoke, licorice and blueberry notes grace the palate. An exquisite, understated wine, the Chapelle is all finesse today. The sweetness and ripeness of the year are evident, yet the 2015 retains striking focus throughout. Fine, silky tannins wrap around the inviting finish. What a gorgeous wine this is. The Chapelle is 45% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. The Merlot was brought in between September 29 and October 2, while the Franc came in between October 8 and 10 and the Cabernet Sauvignon was picked on October 15. Score - 90-93+ (vinous.com)

0476416 (XD) 750mL **\$325.00**

CHÂTEAU ANGÉLUS 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Angelus is a blend of 62% Merlot and 38% Cabernet Franc, picked from 22 September finishing on 14 October. "We found a nice homogeneity with the Merlot lots," I was told when I visited. "The old Cabernet Franc was very nice, but the younger vines were blended into the second label. This year, it is especially the Merlot that lends a lot of harmony to the wine. This year, the Merlot have some of the qualities of the Cabernet Franc, the precision and freshness. They give the generosity and sweetness." The wine was aged in 100% new oak at 11 degrees Celsius so they could add less sulfur to keep the freshness of the aromas and maintain the elegance of the wine. It offers a complex array of aromas such as black cherry, camphor, oyster shells and Japanese nori, beautifully defined and very focused. The palate is medium-bodied but powerful with layer of svelte tannins and a keen thread of acidity; layers of black fruit laced with spices, baking powder, mint and white pepper. It feels long in the mouth, insistently clinging for a minute after the wine has departed. Oh là là. This is a sexy, but compelling Angelus, fit for "007" and wine-lovers everywhere. Drink: 2025-2060. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475954 (XD) 750mL **\$575.00**

CHÂTEAU AUSONE 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (A)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Ausone is a blend of 50% Cabernet Franc and 50% Merlot this year, cropped at 30 hl/ha between 29 September and 2 October for the Merlot and 8-10 October for the Cabernet Franc. Matured in 85% new oak, it has a very intense bouquet of small dark cherries, cassis, violets and incense, a hint of blood orange originating from the Merlot tucked underneath. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, seamlessly integrated oak. It is an intense Saint Emilion with a superb arching structure on the finish, while maintaining sufficient freshness from start to finish. It grips the mouth a little more than some of its peers, implying that it will need longer in bottle, but it will be worth the wait. Patience advised for this great Ausone courtesy of Alain and Pauline Vauthier. Drink: 2025-2060. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0476432 (XD) 750mL **\$1,250.00**

CHÂTEAU BARDE-HAUT 2015

Grand Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château Barde-Haut was harvested from September 17 until October 1, a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc (the latter figure will increase from 2017 with new plantings.) There is no SO2 used during fermentation, just a little after the malolactic, especially the lots in barrel, the part in tank with almost no SO2. The alcohol level is 14%, which is still less than in the past, with a pH of 3.45 to 3.55. It has a wonderful bouquet, extremely well defined with black cherries, cassis and a subtle marine influence - one of the best that I have tasted from this estate. The palate is very well balanced with fine tannin, a keen thread of acidity, very good tension and nervosité right to the pure and caressing finish. Think of it as the "elder sister" of Poesia. Long and tender, this will hopefully replicate this strong performance in barrel. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0472027 (XD) 750mL **\$59.00**

CHÂTEAU BEAU-SÉJOUR BÉCOT 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: A spectacularly rich, hedonistic wine, the 2015 Beau-Séjour-Bécot exudes richness and intensity, with silky, polished tannins that wrap around a huge core of fruit. Dark cherry, plum, mocha, licorice and violet notes flesh out as this voluptuous, modern St.-Émilion shows off its distinctive personality. The 2015 is 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon partially fermented in barrel. All the elements are simply in the right place. Tasted two times. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0474288 (XD) 750mL **\$104.00**

CHÂTEAU BÉLAIR-MONANGE 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Belair-Monange is a blend of 88% Merlot and 12% Cabernet Franc. It has a reticent bouquet at first, but it soon opens up with layers of blackberry, raspberry coulis, orange sorbet and floral aromas. This is beautifully defined and intellectual, a Saint Emilion with aromatic secrets that will only be revealed with bottle age. The palate is medium-bodied with quite sturdy tannin. There is a firm backbone to this Belair-Monange, a serious Saint Emilion, complex and intellectual with precise red and black fruit, a touch of spice and a dash of white pepper on the finish. Dare I say, it represents the first Belair-Monange that ranks among JP Moueix's finest wines since the family acquired the property in 2011. Drink: 2025-2055. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0474700 (XD) 750mL **\$219.00**

CHÂTEAU BELLE COLINE 2015

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. This has lovely purity, with a bright floral note leading the way for racy cassis and fresh chalk notes. Subtle overall, with sneaky length. Score - 89-92 (winespectator.com)

0471938 (XD) 750mL **\$22.00**

CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Bellevue is a pure Merlot picked on September 17, then a pause for two weeks before picking again from October 4-7. It has quite an intense bouquet with lovely floral tones, crème de cassis mixed with licorice, almost brine-like aromas. The palate is very smooth on the entry with good weight in the mouth, plush but structured underneath with fine tannin and precision all the way through to the minerally finish. This estate deserves greater attention. Drink: 2022-2045. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0476259 (XD) 750mL **\$75.00**

CHÂTEAU BEYCHEVELLE 2015

4e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Understated and nuanced, the 2015 Beychevelle is a wine of lovely finesse. Graphite, smoke, plum, violet and lavender are some of the many notes that are found in this delicate, super-expressive Saint-Julien, while floral notes add lift. The finessed side of Saint-Julien comes through nicely here. In 2015, yields were around 47 hectoliters per hectare. The blend is 47% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. New oak is around 50%. Tasted two times. Score - 92-94 (vinous.com)

0476218 (XD) 750mL **\$119.00**

CHÂTEAU BRANAIRE-DUCRU 2015

4e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Branaire-Ducru is deep, fleshy and delicious. Radiant, open-knit and endowed with a total sense of class, the Branaire hits all the right notes. A striking mélange of dark red and purplish fruit, wild flowers, hard candy, mint, spice and new leather makes a strong opening statement. Sweet floral notes add lift on the finish. Branaire is one of the freshest, most perfumed Saint-Julien of the vintage. As such, it is a wine of pure pleasure and sensuality, not to mention a terrific example of the year. Tasted three times. Score - 92-94 (vinous.com)

0472019 (XD) 750mL **\$89.00**

CHÂTEAU BRANE-CANTENAC 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Brane-Cantenac is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 1% Carmenère that was picked from 17 September until 7 October (that Carmenère was actually picked on 19 October). It was cropped at 51 hl/ha. This is classic Brane-Cantenac down the line: austere at first, almost aloof, but very well defined and over time it starts revealing lovely tobacco-stained black fruit. The palate is very well balanced with raspberry and wild strawberry on the entry, perhaps more red fruit than I was anticipating. Veins of undergrowth and cedar are in situ on this very well-balanced, reserved and classic Margaux boasting a long and persistent finish that feels satisfying, reassuring even. Not a Margaux for those that seek tons of fruit, it is nonetheless a very terroir-expressive wine that will repay those who know that this cru demands preferably 12-15 years in the cellar. Henri Lurton never wavers from his style of Margaux and it pays dividends here on this great wine for those with patience. Drink: 2030-2060. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0475509 (XD) 750mL **\$109.00**

CHÂTEAU CALON SÉGUR 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Really lovely bouquet: totally aromatic and full of finesse and restrained power. Great charm and purity of fruit on the palate, showing lovely precision and persistence. This château continues on its progression to the top. Drinking Window: 2022-2040. Score - 95 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0475368 (XD) 750mL **\$129.00**

CHÂTEAU CANON 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Canon is going to be a benchmark for this historic estate. A blend of 72% Merlot and 28% Cabernet Franc, it was cropped at 42 hl/ha between 14-25 September and 30 September until 2 October respectively. The alcohol level is an average 14.5% with a pH 3.78, matured for 18 months in 70% new barrels (except for one barrel of Cabernet Franc that they will bottle separately - just to see). Lucid in color, it has an intense bouquet that exudes extraordinary purity with scents of raspberry, wild strawberry, limestone and violets. It makes a huge impression. The palate is medium-bodied and multilayered with vivacious red and black fruit infused with minerals. The acidity lends the tension here from start to finish, but what this Canon possesses unlike the dozens of other vintages that I have tasted, is an overarching structure that will see it age in similar fashion to past classics such as the 1929, 1947 and 1964. It lingers very long in the mouth, the oak just surfacing a little on the aftertaste, although that will be subsumed with time. This estate has been in the ascendant in recent vintages under winemaker John Kolasa and now Nicolas Audebert, together with a benevolent growing season, has elevated Canon to a level that few could have predicted. Score - 98-100 (robertparker.com)

0475681 (XD) 750mL **\$175.00**

CHÂTEAU CANON-LA-GAFFELIÈRE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Canon La Gaffelière is seriously impressive. Like all of Stephan von Neipperg's wines in this vintage, the Canon La Gaffelière is endowed with considerable richness and a sense of vertical structure. The significant presence of Cabernet Franc gives the wine striking aromatic lift, which it very much needs. Mocha, red cherry jam and sweet floral notes give the 2015 its soaring perfume. This exceptionally beautiful Saint-Émilion is going to need time to fully come together, but it is super-impressive, even in the early going. The 2015 has been nothing short of magnificent on the two occasions I have tasted it so far. The presence of Cabernet Franc is felt in the wine's strong aromatic signature. Score - 95-97 (vinous.com)

0475608 (XD) 750mL **\$135.00**

CHÂTEAU CANTEMERLE 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Cantemerle is a blend of 59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot. It offers plenty of blackberry and raspberry fruit on the nose, not the best defined that I encountered among the Haut-Médocs, but with plenty of "stuffing." The palate is medium-bodied with supple red and black fruit on the entry matched with a fine thread of acidity. There is a pleasing crescendo in the mouth driven by that Merlot content and it finishes with some swagger. This is a very fine Cantemerle exuding joie-de-vivre that I can see doling out plenty of drinking pleasure over the next decade and beyond. Tasted thrice with consistent notes. Drink: 2019-2033. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0470724 (XD) 750mL **\$49.00**

CHÂTEAU CANTENAC BROWN 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Cantenac Brown is superb. Translucent, weightless and totally finessed, the 2015 offers outstanding purity and exceptional overall balance. Sweet plum, tobacco, cedar, licorice and new leather are some of the many nuances that take shape in the glass, but it is the wine's purity that is most impressive. Hints of lavender, iron and smoke add shades of nuance on the tightly wound finish. Over the two weeks I followed it, the Grand Vin put on considerable depth and power. It will be interesting to see where things end up here, but the 2015 was superb all three times I tasted it. Cantenac Brown is one of the great still affordable wines of the year. Don't miss it. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0475517 (XD) 750mL **\$81.00**

CHÂTEAU CARBONNIEUX 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: Attractive dark red fruits, subtle liquorice and gently insisting tannins. One that will deliver pleasure earlier than some. There's a silky approachability, but it should also develop well. Drinking Window: 2023-2035. Score - 93 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0476150 (XD) 750mL **\$59.00**

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL BLANC 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (A)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Cheval Blanc represents the entire vineyard this year, since there is no Le Petit Cheval (two plots that did not meet requirements were not included in any blend). A blend of 45% Cabernet Franc/Cabernet Sauvignon and 55% Merlot, matured in 100% new oak, it has a very complex bouquet, subtle and tightly wound, very precise with dark berry fruit, hints of graphite, minerals and a hint of black pepper, perhaps a little spicier than recent vintages. The palate is medium-bodied with extraordinarily fine tannin. Beautifully balanced, perfectly controlled, this Cheval Blanc gently builds in the mouth, but remains strict and precise. The Cabernet Franc here is very expressive (though apparently the Merlot was showier prior to malolactic). This is an intellectual Cheval Blanc, thoroughly enjoyable, but it will need 10-12 years to really show its pedigree. A profound wine in the making, it will rank with the great wines of the past. Drink: 2025-2065. Score - 97-99 (robertparker.com)

0476325 (XD) 750mL **\$1,200.00**

CHÂTEAU CLÉMENT-PICHON 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Clement Pichon is a blend of 92% Merlot and 8% Cabernet Franc that was picked from September 21 until October 7 at 47 hectoliters per hectare, delivering a reasonable alcohol of 13.5%. It has a dense, powerful bouquet fueled by that Merlot - lush ripe black cherries and blueberry fruit, the 40% new oak nicely integrated. The palate is medium-bodied, nicely balanced, perhaps one of the freshest Clement Pichon that I have tasted in recent vintages, with a lively, almost sorbet-like finish. This Haut-Médoc is worth looking out for as I can imagine this drinking well for 12-18 years. Score - 89-91 (Neal Martin, robertparker.com)

0475897 (XD) 750mL **\$31.00**

CHÂTEAU CLERC MILON 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Fuller than its stablemate d'Armailhac, showing more black fruits and a broader palate, but the same silky richness is there - a hallmark of big brother Mouton. Has great depth for the future. Drinking Window: 2021-2040. Score - 93 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0472068 (XD) 750mL **\$109.00**

CHÂTEAU CLINET 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Clinet is a blend of 90% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Cabernet Franc, cropped at 37 hl/ha and matured in 65% new oak. It was picked from 15 September commencing with the young Merlot vines, and finishing between 28 and 1 October with the very old Merlots and the Cabernets. A couple of specific features to note: the alcohol level is 14.3%, perhaps a little lower than some of Clinet's peers and also a IPT of up to 88, higher than 2010 even. Broody at first, it eventually develops a perfumed bouquet as it opens, with black fruit, melted tar and a brush of black truffle. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin. There is plenty of nascent energy in this Clinet, spicier than other vintages that I have tasted over the years, linear at first and then fanning out towards the finish with a dash of white pepper on the aftertaste. It is a very harmonious Clinet, one that I suspect will favor those with the nous to age this Pomerol for 5-7 years, even though it might tempt you earlier. This is a great Pomerol from Ronan Laborde and his team. Drink: 2025-2050. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475558 (XD) 750mL **\$149.00**

CHÂTEAU COS D'ESTOURNEL 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Rich fruit that is full of that classic exotic Cos spice, yet more restrained than in the past with a slatey graphite base. Beautifully put together; an exciting wine that will grow in complexity and flavour. Drinking Window: 2023-2040. Score - 95 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0475376 (XD) 750mL **\$279.00**

CHÂTEAU D'AIGUILHE 2015

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. Features lush fruit, with creamy-edged plum, raspberry and blackberry flavors that glide along. There's depth here, but this is rounded and fresh in feel, with lovely purity. Score - 91-94 (winespectator.com)

0471862 (XD) 750mL **\$39.00**

CHÂTEAU D'ANGLUDET 2015

TASTING NOTE: Big earthy fruit though a touch leathery, with old vines evident in structure and depth. A serious wine on the masculine side of Margaux. Score - 90 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0469510 (XD) 750mL **\$49.00**

CHÂTEAU D'ARMAILHAC 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Lovely florality, lifted fruit and silky tannins. This wine has got both broader and finer over the years and is now totally complete in the feminine d'Armailhac style. Drinking Window: 2021-2035. Score - 92 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0470740 (XD) 750mL **\$69.00**

CHÂTEAU D'ARSAC 2015

TASTING NOTE: 92-94. Barrel Sample. This is a big wine in many ways, with its dark tannins and powerful structure. It is full and generous, replete with black-fruit flavors. The finish is soft and rich. Score - 93 (Wine Enthusiast)

0468975 (XD) 750mL **\$34.00**

CHÂTEAU DE CHANTEGRIVE 2015

TASTING NOTE: Very fine tannins and pretty fruit for this wine with medium to full body and a fresh finish. 50% merlot and 50% cabernet sauvignon. Score - 91-92 (jamessuckling.com)

0470286 (XD) 750mL **\$25.00**

CHÂTEAU DE FIEUZAL 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 de Fieuzal has a very seductive bouquet, almost Saint Emilion in style (perhaps the hand of consultant Hubert de Boüard at play?). I mean that in a positive sense: it is extremely pure and sensual, an aromatic femme fatale. The palate is ripe and generous on the entry, but simultaneously poised and minerally, almost edgy towards the sustained and focused finish. There is wonderful freshness and vitality here, yet another really quite stupendous Pessac-Léognan that is going to be a joy to drink over the next 20-25 years. Drink: 2021-2045. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0472134 (XD) 750mL **\$62.00**

CHÂTEAU DE FRANCS LES CERISIERS 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Francs les Cerisiers is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. It has a tight fist of blackberry and raspberry fruit on the nose, some new oak to be absorbed during its élevage. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, quite saline in the mouth with a touch of black olive on the finish. A bit of a brassy Côtes de Francs - but there is nothing wrong with that. Drink: 2019-2029. Score - 87-89 (robertparker.com)

0469098 (XD) 750mL **\$21.00**

CHÂTEAU DE LA HUSTE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château de la Huste has a ripe black cherry and blueberry scented bouquet, forward and showy at first, calming down in the glass to reveal an attractive marine influence. The palate is well balanced with crisp acidity, fresh in the mouth with a more understated but harmonious finish than the aromatics suggest. This is worth seeking out - I appreciate the persistence in the mouth and the saline aftertaste. Drink: 2019-2030. Score - 89-91 (robertparker.com)

0468942 (XD) 750mL **\$22.00**

CHÂTEAU D'ISSAN 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château d'Issan is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot cropped at 40 hl/ha, representing 55% of the production. Emmanuel Cruse told me how they suffered less rain on the weekend of 12 and 13 September, 32 millimeters being less than in the northern Médoc. Cropped between 21 September and 6 October, it has a very pure and sensual bouquet that takes time to open up, eventually offering black cherries and blueberry, a marine influence tucked in just behind (a common thread throughout various vintages of d'Issan). The palate is underpinned by extraordinarily fine tannin that gently caress the mouth. The 55% new oak is beautifully embroidered throughout this wine from start to finish, which displays energy, real frisson in the mouth. This may well turn out to be one of the greatest Château d'Issan made in the modern era. Tasted twice with consistent notes. Drink: 2028-2060. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0475632 (XD) 750mL **\$99.00**

CHÂTEAU DU RETOUT 2015

AC Haut-Médoc

TASTING NOTE: An iron note forms along the edges of the slightly tangy red currant and damson plum fruit, lingering through the finish. Very solid, with good typicity. Barrel Tasting. Score - 89-92 (James Molesworth, winespectator.com, 2016)

0476267 (XD) 750mL **\$21.00**

CHÂTEAU DU TERTRE 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 du Tertre is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% each of Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc and Merlot, picked 9 September until 9 October, matured in around 47% new oak. The nose is impressive, more so than the 2014 twelve months ago with tightly-wound but very focused raspberry, cranberry and iodine aromas that gently unfurl with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with good structure, impressive depth, a du Tertre with more substance and body than recent vintages. There is precision with satisfying length on the cedar and pencil lead finish. Alexandre Van Beek might have produced his best du Tertre to date. Drink: 2025-2045. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0472050 (XD) 750mL **\$65.00**

CHÂTEAU DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Extraordinary blend of finesse and depth from 95% Cabernet. A wine with a taffeta texture that enhances the extreme purity and depth of fruit. Hard to imagine a better balanced, more vineyard-expressive wine. Drinking Window: 2023-2050. Score - 96 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0476093 (XD) 750mL **\$279.00**

CHÂTEAU FIGEAC 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Figeac is a blend of 29% Merlot, 28% Cabernet Franc and 43% Cabernet Sauvignon that was picked from 21 September with the Merlot until 15 October with the Cabernet Sauvignon at 41 hectoliters per hectare. The Cabernet comes through strongly on the nose - classic Figeac in many ways - black fruit, a touch of cassis, pencil and a touch of rose petal. The palate is drop-dead gorgeous, its foundation a lattice of filigree tannin and perfectly judged acidity. It is very fresh from its vivacious start to its pencil-lead finish imbued with effortless grace. It is almost comical that naysayers decried that Michel Rolland would turn Figeac into some kind of fruit bomb. Head winemaker Frédéric Faye has overseen a tip-top classic Figeac without any of the greenness that occasionally affected older vintages, now boasting a level of precision up there with the very best in the Right Bank. It was difficult to find fault with this quite astonishing Saint Emilion and who knows what could transpire once it is in bottle. Drink: 2022-2055. Score - 97-99 (robertparker.com)

0476465 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

CHÂTEAU FLEUR CARDINALE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château Fleur Cardinale is a blend of 70% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon matured in 100% new oak. It offers sweet dates and figs tincturing the dark cherry and blueberry fruit on the nose. Heady perhaps, yet there is more delineation here than I have discerned in other vintages. The palate is full-bodied with lush ripe black cherry fruit, blueberry and cassis coming in behind, fanning out towards a plush finish that just needs a little more precision to come through. Drink: 2020-2045. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0475855 (XD) 750mL **\$65.00**

CHÂTEAU FOMBRAUGE 2015

Grand Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Fombrauge is a blend of 95% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc that was cropped at 45 hl/ha between 24 September and 15 October. It is matured in 45% new oak barrels, 45% one-year-old and 10% in cement tank. It has a rich and generous bouquet with layers of black cherry, iodine and a hint of licorice. There is a slight headiness to these aromatics. The palate is showing more restraint and finesse, clean and pure with lightly spiced red berry fruit, hints of licorice and white pepper, a subtle bay leaf note towards the finish that displays well-integrated oak. Give this 5-8 years once in bottle and you will have a fine Saint Emilion on your hands. Drink: 2021-2045. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0469502 (XD) 750mL **\$39.00**

CHÂTEAU FONTENIL 2015

TASTING NOTE: Michel Rolland's property and one of his best yet. Spice and dark fruit notes and a sumptuous texture. Tannins are plentiful but really fine. Freshness and length on the finish. Harmonious. Drinking Window:2021-2030. Score - 92 (James Lawther, MW, decanter.com)

0475871 (XD) 750mL **\$35.00**

CHÂTEAU FRANC MAYNE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Franc-Mayne has a refined and detailed bouquet with blackberry, raspberry coulis and a touch of cedar emerging from the glass. This is a classy bouquet in the making. The palate is fresh and vibrant with succulent red berry fruit overlaying a fine lattice of tannin. Precise, focused and elegant without compromising the fruit, this is perhaps the best wine that I have tasted from this estate. Bravo! Drink: 2020-2040. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0475772 (XD) 750mL **\$52.00**

CHÂTEAU GISCOURS 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Giscours is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot. That is in stark comparison to older vintages, for example the 2000 Giscours that was 50/50 Cabernet and Merlot. This vintage is matured in 50% new oak. Winemaker Alexandre Van Beek told me that the 2015 "...reflects the true terroir at Giscours that created the great wines of the 1960s and 1970s." That is something to live up to with fresh memories of the 1961 in my brain. The bouquet is very intense and almost "untamed" at first, but it calms down in the glass, revealing attractive scents of blackberry, raspberry, cedar and graphite. This is a Giscours determined to make a good impression...and it does. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, very pure, a little spicier than recent vintages, adorned with a gentle crescendo in the mouth towards a really quite fantastic, tensile, complex and compelling finish. Having tasted the 1961 and 1970 Giscours just a few months ago, I wager that the 2015 will be the best since the 1961. Time to fall back in love with this great Margaux property. Drink: 2025-2060. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0471847 (XD) 750mL **\$87.00**

CHÂTEAU GRAND CORBIN-DESPAGNE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château Grand Corbin-Despaigne has a precise and floral bouquet, wilted violets infusing the dark cherry and blackberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, a keen line of acidity, plenty of nascent energy with impressive tension on the long finish. This should offer 15-20 years of pleasure and I expect the final bottle sample score to rest at the top of my band, possibly higher. Tasted twice with consistent notes. Drink: 2021-2045. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0472100 (XD) 750mL **\$49.00**

CHÂTEAU GRAND MAYNE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Grand Mayne has a ripe small, dark cherry and mulberry scented bouquet, very perfumed with cassis scents emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, very elegant and poised, part of a new style of Grand Mayne that is much more refined than the vintages of the 1990s and 2000s. In a word, what Jean-Antoine Nony and his team have made here is a "stylish" Saint Emilion. Drink: 2020-2045. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0476135 (XD) 750mL **\$65.00**

CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY-LACOSTE 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: A rich, super-finessed wine, the 2015 Grand-Puy-Lacoste brings together the ripeness of the vintage and classic elegance of Pauillac in stunning style. Today, the 2015 is gloriously ripe and intense, with fabulous follow-through and remarkable balance. Dark red cherry, pomegranate, exotic, spice and blood orange hit the flamboyant finish. This is one of the wines of the vintage. Don't miss it. Tasted four times. Score - 92-95 (vinous.com)

0475590 (XD) 750mL **\$115.00**

CHÂTEAU GRUAUD LAROSE 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Gruaud Larose is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 9% Cabernet Franc, picked from 21 September. It has a rather conservative bouquet, reticent at first, gradually unfolding with truffle-tinged black fruit, the oak nicely integrated but perhaps needing a little more energy. The palate is ripe and rounded on the entry, fleshier than many of its Saint Julien counterparts, quite sumptuous in terms of mouthfeel with a suave texture. There is a sense of linearity here, a strictness that particularly comes through on the finish. The purity is commendable and the tannin, fine, but what it needs is that final flourish. It just misses that killer blow on the finish and saunters to its conclusion. I hope that it gains more in barrel. Drink: 2025-2055. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0474247 (XD) 750mL **\$115.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BAGES LIBÉRAL 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: 91-93. Barrel Sample. Pure black-currant fruitiness shines through this wine. It has great fruits and serious tannins that are developing into balance. Bright acidity lifts the finish, which is driven by pure Cabernet Sauvignon character. Score - 92 (Wine Enthusiast)

0471995 (XD) 750mL **\$69.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BAILLY 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Haut Bailly is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot (Véronique Sanders told me that the latter was planted three years ago.) My sample included 80% new oak, but there will be 50% in the final blend. Deep in color, the bouquet is very intense with multilayered blackberry, blueberry, crème de cassis and subtle black olive aromas, introverted at first but soon racing out of the blocks with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe, quite firm tannin. This is an Haut-Bailly with real backbone, real sense of purpose. It could have tipped over into being overpowering due to that intense Merlot, but the acidity keeps everything in check and the finish demonstrates wonderful tension. In particular, the aftertaste is incredibly long in the mouth. This Haut Bailly is up there with the 2009 and 2010 - a bravura Pessac-Léognan destined for long-term ageing. Do yourself (and the wine) a favor and cellar it for 12 years, drinking the 2012 or 2013 before reaching for this. Drink: 2027-2065. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0474817 (XD) 750mL **\$169.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BATAILLEY 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Haut Batailley is a blend of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon and 28% Merlot, matured in 60% new oak. It was picked between 21 September until 2 October. It is a level up from the 2015 Lacoste Borie with much more fruit intensity: blackberry, boysenberry, tobacco and cedar aromas. It gathers momentum in the glass and develops a subtle mint accent. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, lithe tannin, very well balanced with just a slight tinniness that will disappear by the time in bottle. I love the pencil shaving sprinkled over the aftertaste here. With very good substance and impressive length, this is a classic Pauillac that I suspect will offer 25 or 30 years of pleasure. Drink: 2025-2055. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0474338 (XD) 750mL **\$72.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BERGEY 2015

TASTING NOTE: Dense with very ripe tannins and spices. Dried fruits such as blackberries. Licorice too. Full and powerful. Score - 92-93 (jamessuckling.com)

0468991 (XD) 750mL **\$35.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRION 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Haut Brion, a blend of 50% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, was picked between 8 September and 5 October, and is matured in the same level of new oak (78%) and IPT (75) as the La Mission. It has a heavenly bouquet that like the La Mission bestows instant gratification - a veritable kaleidoscope of aromas so crystalline that you can pick them out one by one: dark plum, blackcurrant, Kalamata olive and graphite. It is tempting to just nose this all day. The palate has an indescribably stunning balance and like the La Mission, there is a paradoxical sense of intensity married to weightlessness. Everything here is so precise, so pure and yet as it crescendos towards the finish, it offers a profundity that is unmatched across Bordeaux in this vintage. Having had the pleasure of many great wines from this estate in the past - 1945, 1955, 1959, 1961 and 1989 - the 2015 belongs among that pantheon. Drink: 2030-2075. Score - 98-100 (robertparker.com)

0476358 (XD) 750mL **\$950.00**

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRISSON 2015

TASTING NOTE: Until the 2015 vintage, all the fruit from Château Haut Brisson came from down towards Château Teyssier; however, in 2013 Peter Kwok bought a parcel located on the limestone plateau in Saint-Etienne-de-Lisse, which obviously will impact and hopefully improve the quality. The 2015 Haut Brisson is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc cropped at 34 hl/ha and matured in 35% new oak. It has a potent, perfumed bouquet with violet-inked cassis and blueberry fruit that is very well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin. This is a little more structured and classier than previous vintages, though there is some chocolaty oak on the finish that needs to be fully subsumed by the time it is bottled. Give this 2-3 years in bottle, because it is a very well-crafted Haut Brisson, though I think even better is to come. Drink: 2018-2035. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0468306 (XD) 750mL **\$35.00**

CHÂTEAU HOSANNA 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Hosanna is a blend of 82% Merlot and 18% Cabernet Franc. Now Hosanna is usually quite exuberant on the nose at this early stage, however, this is a very different Hosanna - much more reserved and introverted, yet still complex with a melange of black fruit, undergrowth, truffle and brine aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, plenty of truffle-tinged fruit, a lovely spicy edge and a persuasive peacock's tail finish that lingers long in the mouth while maintaining wonderful freshness. This is an outstanding Hosanna from the JP Moueix team, perhaps the first vintage to really convince me of its greatness since its debut. Drink: 2023-2050. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0469064 (XD) 750mL **\$199.00**

CHÂTEAU LA CABANNE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Cabanne is a blend of 95% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc. Proprietor François Estager told me that this was the first vintage where he has not used any sulfur (one of a few that are moving in that direction). Tasted on three occasions, the nose offers brambly black fruit mixed with wild hedgerow and cold stone, certainly more sophisticated than recent vintages, with impressive purity. The palate is built upon fine grain tannin, well-judged acidity, and is nicely proportioned with the fruit, given lift by the new oak on the finish. I suspect that the aromatics were just having an off day; given the performance of the palate and knowing how fine this Pomerol can be, it should turn into a delicious, perhaps relatively approachable Pomerol that will give a couple decades of pleasure. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0476234 (XD) 750mL **\$57.00**

CHÂTEAU LA CONFESSION 2015

Grand Cru

TASTING NOTE: Mid to dark crimson. Mineral edge sharpens this up. Solid stuff that's quite sweet and solid. Distinguished. When to drink: 2023-2032. Score - 16.5 (out of 20) (jancisrobinson.com)

0471946 (XD) 750mL **\$55.00**

CHÂTEAU LA DOMINIQUE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Dominique is bold, vibrant and full of energy. A host of blue/black fruits, crème de cassis, mocha, violets, licorice, plums, menthol and smoke race out of the glass. Although quite bold, powerful and racy, the 2015 also has more than enough tannic backbone to balance some of the more overt elements. This is a first class effort from La Dominique. Score - 92-95 (vinous.com)

0474858 (XD) 750mL **\$85.00**

CHÂTEAU LA FLEUR-PÉTRUS 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Fleur Petrus is a blend of 93% Merlot and 7% Cabernet Franc, having absorbed Château Guillot back in 2012. It has a clean and precise bouquet with ebullient red cherry, blackcurrant and cold stone aromas that are very succinct. There is nothing showy here, but it is very refined and graceful. The palate is very well balanced with succulent ripe tannin, clean and precise, lightly spiced red fruit with outstanding focus and tension on the finish. This La Fleur Petrus has an effortless cool about it. I am sure it will be wondrous once in bottle. Drink: 2023-2050. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0474908 (XD) 750mL **\$269.00**

CHÂTEAU LA MISSION HAUT-BRION 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Mission Haut Brion is a blend of 58% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Cabernet Franc that was picked between 9 September and 1 October. Matured in 78% new oak, it has an incredibly pure bouquet with intense blueberry, blackberry, iodine and cold stone aromas that soar from the glass. There is nothing holding back here - a La Mission with real exuberance. The palate is medium-bodied with incredible intensity in the mouth, but without any leaden weight. It is a startling La Mission Haut-Brion to behold at this early stage. It is one of those wines where as a professional critic, I had to adopt a poker face to hide the untrammled joy this nascent wine imparts. Complete and profound, the 2015 will rank as one of the great modern-day classics from this grand estate, another to add to that long list of magical La Missions. Drink: 2030-2070. Score - 97-99 (robertparker.com)

0475707 (XD) 750mL **\$699.00**

CHÂTEAU LA MONDOTTE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Mondotte emerges from Stephan von Neipperg's tiny 4.5 hectare vineyard on Saint-Émilion's limestone plateau. A huge, unctuous wine, the 2015 is simply stunning. All the elements meld together in an effortless, concentrated wine endowed with magnificent intensity and power. Totally seamless in the glass, the 2015 possesses magnificent richness and the pedigree to age well for many years. Tasted two times. Score - 95-97 (vinous.com)

0475442 (XD) 750mL **\$425.00**

CHÂTEAU LA PRADE 2015

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. This has the textbook profile of the vintage, offering juicy, engaging fruit and solid but velvety tannins, with excellent energy through the finish and a nice mineral echo. Score range: 89-92. Score - 89-92 (winespectator.com)

0469585 (XD) 750mL **\$25.00**

CHÂTEAU LA VIEILLE CURE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Vieille Cure is exceptional. Rich, ample and creamy, the 2015 offers superb intensity throughout. Dark cherry, plum, menthol, spice and licorice are some of the notes that build into the sumptuous finish. Even with all of its intensity, this modern, racy Fronsac retains terrific freshness and overall energy. There is so much to like. Tasted three times. Score - 90-93 (vinous.com)

0470815 (XD) 750mL **\$33.00**

CHÂTEAU LABÉGORCE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Labegorce is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot that was picked between 15 September and 20 October. Cropped at 38 hl/ha and matured in 45% new oak, it has a sumptuous bouquet with macerated black cherries, wild strawberry and a touch of fresh prune. The palate is well balanced and much more reserved than the aromatics: crisp and firm tannin, nicely focused with a pleasing salinity on the structured finish that suggest that this Labegorce will reward long-term ageing. Drink: 2022-2045. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0476424 (XD) 750mL **\$47.00**

CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The Lafite violets come to the fore, providing finely polished elegance to the palate. It seems discreet but the cellar master says 2015 is the most 'concentrated' Lafite they have made. This will show as it matures. Drinking Window: 2023-2045. Score - 96 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0476143 (XD) 750mL **\$999.00**

CHÂTEAU LAFLEUR-GAZIN 2015

TASTING NOTE: Barrel Tasting. Offers an alluring licorice frame, with currant and plum sauce flavors giving this a slightly dark profile. Shows a velvety edge throughout. Score range: 92-95. Score - 92-95 (winespectator.com)

0469056 (XD) 750mL **\$65.00**

CHÂTEAU LAFON-ROCHET 2015

4e Cru

TASTING NOTE: One of the potential sleepers of the vintage, Basil Tesseron's 2015 Lafon-Rochet is a total knock-out. Explosive, deep and powerful, the 2015 possesses remarkable richness and intensity. A host of black cherry, smoke, gravel, menthol, tar and licorice notes abound. I tasted the 2015 four times over two weeks. During that time, the wine seemed to acquire more and more freshness as well as finesse. There is little question Lafon-Rochet is one of the stars of Saint-Estèphe in 2015. The blend is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. Jean-Claude Berrouet consults. Score - 92-95 (vinous.com)

0471961 (XD) 750mL **\$69.00**

CHÂTEAU LAGRANGE 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Lagrange is a blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 8% Petit Verdot, continuing the estate's philosophy including more Cabernet in the Grand Vin (for example, in 2005 it was just 46%.) Cropped at 50 hl/ha and matured in around 50% to 55% new oak from six different cooperages, it has a tightly-knit bouquet with blackberry, cedar and light rose petal scents, elegant in style. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly grainy tannin, moderate weight in the mouth, not as intense as either the 2009 or 2010, although it is harmonious and graceful. There is a pleasant spicy, white pepper note that lingers on the aftertaste of what should be one of the earlier drinking Saint Julien wines. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0471979 (XD) 750mL **\$69.00**

CHÂTEAU LANGOA BARTON 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Langoa Barton is fleshy, open-knit and absolutely delicious. Sweet red cherry and pomegranate are pushed forward, while hints of violet, lavender and spice add freshness and lift to the succulent finish. The gracious, feminine side of Saint-Julien comes through in spades. This is very nicely done. Tasted two times. Score - 90-93 (vinous.com)

0470765 (XD) 750mL **\$79.00**

CHÂTEAU LARCIS-DUCASSE 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: One of the stars of the vintage, the 2015 Larcis Ducasse is intensely aromatic, silky and totally sensual from the very first taste. The purity of the fruit here is striking. Even so, it will be many years before the 2015 is ready to show all it's got. Today, it is the wine's total sense of harmony that is absolutely alluring. A rush of raspberry jam, pomegranate and blood orange leaves a lasting impression. The 2015 is a dramatic, richly-textured Larcis Ducasse long on class and pedigree. The blend is 87% Merlot and 13% Cabernet Franc picked between September 28 and October 12 and aged in 50% new oak. Tasted two times. Score - 94-97 (vinous.com)

0475640 (XD) 750mL **\$115.00**

CHÂTEAU LATOUR À POMEROL 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Latour a Pomerol is a blend of 96% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. It has an intense bouquet: black cherries, kirsch, truffle and a subtle sea spray scent that emerges only with aeration in the glass. The palate is very smooth on the entry. This is a refined and composed, almost graceful Latour-à-Pomerol, silky smooth in texture with layers of spicy black fruit fanning out on the finish. It is likely to be the best wine from this estate in several years - one to look out for once in bottle. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0469015 (XD) 750mL **\$129.00**

CHÂTEAU LATOUR-MARTILLAC 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 La Tour Martillac is a blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot matured in 40% new French oak. It has a slightly more high-toned and outgoing bouquet, with dark cherries and blackcurrant aromas, a smidgen of cassis emerging with time in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, a pleasant saltiness here, very focused with a finish of real pedigree. This is a superb Pessac-Léognan from the estate - one of the best in recent years. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0475947 (XD) 750mL **\$55.00**

CHÂTEAU LE GAY 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Le Gay comes from the 6.5-hectare Pomerol estate, of which 2.09 hectares are currently being restructured. It is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc picked from 27 September until 8 October at one degree lower alcohol than Montviel; it has a fragrant bouquet with delineated red cherries, crushed strawberry and hints of vanilla from the 100% new oak. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, ripe and rounded in the mouth, very well balanced and very smooth. This just glides across the mouth and once that new oak has been absorbed, this will be a gorgeous Le Gay to behold. Do not overlook this Cru because it has been on a roll in recent years. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0475418 (XD) 750mL **\$179.00**

CHÂTEAU L'ÉGLISE-CLINET 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 L'Eglise-Clinet is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, picked between 21-25 September at 41 hl/ha and matured in 70% new oak. Denis Durantou poured two samples for me. First from Darnajou barrel. Here, a very composed, effortless bouquet with extremely pure raspberry coulis, strawberry, almost confit-like scents that display ethereal delineation. This is not a powerful or intense bouquet, rather one that is sophisticated and refined, bunches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red berry fruit, crisp acidity, mineral-rich and tensile. There is tangible energy and refinement on the finish that lingers long and tenderly in the mouth, a wine constantly having something more to say. The second came from Demptos barrel. This was deeper on the nose, showing a touch more fruit, slightly higher toned. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, structured in the mouth, perhaps the barrel impressing its character more on the wine than the Darnajou. Together, they should combine to create a quite magical 2015 L'Eglise-Clinet. Drink: 2022-2045. Score - 96-98 (robertparker.com)

0476333 (XD) 750mL **\$450.00**

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE BARTON 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Léoville-Barton is superb. Vivid and wonderfully nuanced in the glass, the 2015 offers exceptional purity in its aromas and flavors. As always, the house style favors finesse over pure power, but in 2015 there is a good bit of both. Graphite, pencil shavings and crème de cassis, herbs and mocha meld into a rich, textured, beautifully persistent finish. The tannins are there, but they are nearly buried. Léoville-Barton is not the most powerful or showy Saint-Julien in 2015, but it is class personified. Don't miss it. Tasted two times. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0471896 (XD) 750mL **\$129.00**

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE POYFERRÉ 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Léoville-Poyferré is simply magnificent. Rich, creamy and voluptuous in the glass, the 2015 captures all the best qualities of the vintage in spades. Layers of flavor blossom in the glass as the wine fill out its broad-shouldered frame with impeccable grace. A host of floral notes, including violet, lavender and rose petal grace the utterly exquisite finish. There is so much to like here. Specifically, the interplay of ripeness, texture and freshness is compelling. The blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc. Tasted three times. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0474346 (XD) 750mL **\$135.00**

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE-LAS CASES 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: At 94% (85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Cabernet Franc) this is the highest-ever Cab content in this grand vin. Very dense at first but full of power and elegance, with lots of energy. Beautifully made, and seems more Pauillac than St-Julien. This will be a very great wine. Drinking Window: 2025-2050 Score - 96 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0475723 (XD) 750mL **\$315.00**

CHÂTEAU LES CARMES HAUT-BRION 2015

TASTING NOTE: The highest proportion of Cabernet Franc on the Left Bank at 45%, with just over 1ha of ungrafted vines more than 80 years old. Additional 25% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot. Light touch and great concentration for the future. There's body, movement and energy to the dark cassis fruit, 70% aged in new oak, 30% in clay amphora. Stéphane Derenoncourt oversees an increasing move to biodynamic farming. One of the best ever wines produced here; an estate to watch. 3.7pH, 14.1%abv. Drinking Window: 2023-2038. Score - 95 (Jane Anson, decanter.com)

0475285 (XD) 750mL **\$115.00**

CHÂTEAU LES CRUZELLES 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Les Cruzelles is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc on gravel/clayey soil, picked from September 15-22 and October 6 respectively, then matured in 45% new oak. The new wood is seamlessly integrated into this Lalande-de-Pomerol, more broody and introspective than the La Chenade at the moment, but very well defined. The palate is beautifully proportioned with crisp tannin, a fine line of acidity, somehow gentle and understated on the finish, but very long in the mouth. Yet another ridiculously fine wine to load up on, courtesy of Denis Durantou. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0472035 (XD) 750mL **\$45.00**

CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Lynch Bages is a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot that was picked from 23 September until 2 October, matured in 75% new oak. There is an overwhelming sense of purity on the nose: perfumed, almost floral blackberry, wild strawberry, graphite and cedar scents, unmistakably Pauillac in style. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin, a keen citrus thread that impart tension and ample freshness. Tasting this as the first wine of the day, it instantly refreshes the mouth and leaves it tingling with energy after it has departed. This is an excellent, top-grade Lynch Bages that deserves 8-10 years in bottle and then will offer three decade of pleasure, maybe more. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0474726 (XD) 750mL **\$199.00**

CHÂTEAU MAILLET 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Maillet is deep in color. The nose offers macerated dark cherries intermingling with vanilla and blueberries that is powerful, if missing the delineation of some of the top Pomerol crus. The palate is full-bodied with grainy tannin. There is a lot of extraction here, a little coarse in texture with dense black cherries and mulberry on the finish. Not a bad Pomerol by any means, although it does miss some sophistication and breeding. Score - 89-91 (robertparker.com)

0469569 (XD) 750mL **\$63.00**

CHÂTEAU MALARTIC-LAGRAVIÈRE 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Malartic Lagravière is a total rock star. Deep, powerful and exotic, the 2015 sweeps across the palate with stunning richness and intensity. The creamy voluptuousness of the vintage is on full display. The blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Franc works beautifully here. Rich, unctuous and also super-expressive, the 2015 is bursting at the seams with intensity. Dark cherry, mocha, plum and spice notes meld into the huge, effortless finish. This is an utterly thrilling wine from Malartic Lagravière, but it is also tightly wound and in need of serious cellaring. This is another stellar showing from the Bonnie family and consultant Michel Rolland. Don't miss it! Score - 95-97 (vinous.com)

0474791 (XD) 750mL **\$79.00**

CHÂTEAU MALESCOT ST. EXUPÉRY 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Malescot-St-Exupery has an intriguing and complex bouquet with oyster shells and seaweed infusing the intense black fruit. It is certainly well defined with nicely integrated new oak. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp tannin, a keen thread of acidity, very pure and smooth in texture, gently unfolding towards the lightly spiced finish that lingers long in the mouth. This is a superb Margaux, surfeit with breeding and sophistication, though it will need 10-15 years in bottle. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0470807 (XD) 750mL **\$85.00**

CHÂTEAU MARGAUX 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Château Margaux is a blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, all together representing 35% of the total production at the estate. Raised entirely in new oak, it has a lucid garnet color. The bouquet is aimed directly at the senses - there is no dilly-dallying about, as it almost knocks you off your stool with its intense mineralité embroidered into this iridescent, graphite-tinged nose. The focus and penetration here ranks among the finest that I have tasted at this estate since first coming here in 1997. The palate is astonishingly well balanced, perfectly poised with super-fine tannins wrapped around pure blackberry, bilberry, graphite and cedar fruit. Like the Pavillon Rouge this year, there is a Pauillac-like sense of authority and aristocracy, leavened by Margaux-inspired femininity that completes that standout 2015 on the Left Bank. Beg for a bottle and worry about the cost later. Post script: I composed this tasting note five days before the passing of Paul Pontallier. It is a final gift from a gifted winemaker. Score - 98-100 (robertparker.com)

0475293 (XD) 750mL **\$950.00**

CHÂTEAU MONBOUSQUET 2015

Grand Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Monbousquet is a blend of 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon matured in 70% new oak. It has a ripe and sexy bouquet with black cherries, black olive and blueberry. The oak is nicely integrated here. The palate is full-bodied with saturated tannin, supple in the mouth, easy-going in some ways with a smooth rounded finish of licorice-tinged black fruit mixed with cassis and a hint of cedar, more evident on a second sample I tasted outside the château. What it needs is just more finesse and delineation but it should turn out nicely once in bottle. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0471953 (XD) 750mL **\$82.00**

CHÂTEAU MONTROSE 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Montrose is a blend of 67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc that was picked between 15 September and 8 October, the fruit sorted three times using three sorting tables, then an optical sorting machine and finally by hand. Matured in 65% new oak, it possesses some of the best aromatics you will find in the appellation - billowing blackberry, cassis and boysenberry scents all beautifully defined and seamlessly integrated with the new oak. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, commendable depth and a vibrant bead of acidity that lends this Montrose tension from start to finish. The class comes through strongly in this wine, perhaps the best Saint Estèphe this year. Give this a decade in bottle, more if you can, since Montrose tends to repay cellaring. Score - 93-95 (robertparker.com)

0475525 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

CHÂTEAU MONTVIEL 2015

TASTING NOTE: Offers showy flavors of boysenberry, raspberry and fig, gaining excellent definition from singed spice, graphite and anise notes that add considerable range. Barrel Tasting. Score - 91-94 (winespectator.com)

0475780 (XD) 750mL **\$57.00**

CHÂTEAU MOUTON ROTHSCHILD 2015

1er Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Mouton-Rothschild is a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc matured entirely in new oak, as usual. This represents a relatively high percentage of Merlot simply because, as winemaker Philippe Dhalluin told me, that quality was so good. I afforded my sample four to five minutes to open as it was a little reduced at first, but eventually it reveals a gorgeous, extraordinarily intense bouquet of blackberry, cassis, incense and cold slate aromas. In some ways it reminds me of Latour as much as Mouton Rothschild. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, perfectly pitched acidity, wonderful tension and impressive length. There is a strong graphite theme running through from start to finish that is little grainy and so it will require preferably a decade in cellar. But what freshness and panache here, a classic Mouton-Rothschild that will live for 50 or 60 years, not a million miles away from say, the 1986 or 2010. Expect this to settle at the top of my banded score once in bottle. Score - 97-99 (robertparker.com)

0476184 (XD) 750mL **\$950.00**

CHÂTEAU PALMER 2015

3e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Palmer is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot matured into up to 70% new oak. The official start of the picking was 22 September, finishing on the 7 October with the Petit Verdot and the Cabernet Sauvignon. This has a wonderful bouquet with layers of dark cherry, boysenberry, a faint hint of dark chocolate and minerals. There is superb delineation here. The palate is medium-bodied, but this constitutes a decidedly more structured Palmer than I have encountered in recent years, perhaps a little more masculine due to the slightly higher Cabernet content. This is a classic Palmer made by winemaker Thomas Duroux, symmetrical in some way, poised and effortless on the finish. Those who like the more showy Palmer might not warm to this 2015, but this has real class and sophistication, a Palmer that will repay those with the nous to cellar it for 10-15 years. Expect it to reside at the top of my banded score. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475459 (XD) 750mL **\$475.00**

CHÂTEAU PALOUMEY 2015

TASTING NOTE: 92-94. Barrel Sample. This is a bold, fruity wine, with structured tannins and ripe berry fruits. There is a succulent, juicy character that adds to the richness of the wine, yet remains taut come the finish with balanced acidity. Score - 93 (Wine Enthusiast)

0475822 (XD) 750mL **\$25.00**

CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Pape Clement is a blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. It was cropped at 40 hl/ha between 25 September and 15 October with berry by berry destemming. It has a drop-dead gorgeous bouquet that continues the ever greater finesse that has been imparted into this Pape-Clément in recent years. It is extremely precise, almost crystalline. The palate is underpinned by fine tannin, pitch-perfect acidity, a sense of cohesion and harmony that is outstanding. There is not a hair out of place on this barrel sample and it will doubtless evolve into one of the best wines this state has produced since the 14th century, when Bertrand de Goth was planting its first vines. This comes highly recommended - a Pape-Clément that will reward those who can resist temptation and cellar this wine for 10+ years. Tasted on four separate occasions. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0472084 (XD) 750mL **\$139.00**

CHÂTEAU PAVIE 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Pavie is a blend of 60% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon that is matured in 80% new oak and 20% one-year-old barrels. It has a really quite glorious bouquet that is sensual and very well defined and pure. In my opinion, just dialing down the new oak even by 15% is allowing more personality and more terroir-expression to filter through. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, ripe, lace-like tannins and a fine bead of acidity. It feels caressing and sensual in the mouth with superb mineralité and purity on the vivacious and sustained finish. This is unquestionably the best wine from Gérard Perse in 2015: a great Pavie with a very long life ahead, though I would cellar it for at least a decade to witness it in full flight. Score - 96-98 (robertparker.com)

0475715 (XD) 750mL **\$599.00**

CHÂTEAU PAVIE-MACQUIN 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Pavie Macquin is another tremendous wine from Nicolas Thienpont and his team. Inky, rich and voluptuous the 2015 is endowed with remarkable depth and plenty of underlying energy to back it all up. The flavors are dark, bold and incisive, as are the tannins. The 2015 is going to require quite a bit of time to come together, but it is impressive, that much is obvious. Pavie Macquin is 84% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon picked between September 29 and October 17 and aged in 60% new oak. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0475616 (XD) 750mL **\$129.00**

CHÂTEAU PÉTRUS 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Petrus is, of course, 100% Merlot picked between September 15-29, although the secateurs were only used on six of those days with a majority coming toward the end of that period. Olivier Berrouet told me that it will be matured in 50% new oak. It has an extremely precise, controlled bouquet with crystalline red and black fruit. This is not a powerful or intense bouquet, but beguilingly pretty. It is crystalline and I detected more mineralité than in recent vintages, perhaps because there is less puppy fat. The palate is beautifully balanced, completely harmonious, underpinned by filigree tannin that assert a sense of focus and linearity until two-thirds of the way along, whereupon it fans out while maintaining breathtaking clarity. Touches of cracked black pepper and spice lend this Petrus personality and intrigue. Having tasted most legendary Petrus since the 1940s, and tasted here from barrel since 2002, I can only apologize for being so predictable by claiming that this may well nestle among the likes of the Petrus 1950, 1964, 1989 and 1998. Score - 98-100 (robertparker.com)

0476408 (XD) 750mL **\$1,895.00**

CHÂTEAU PHÉLAN SÉGUR 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Phelan Segur, a blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon and 47% Merlot aged in 50% new oak, is certainly one of the better offerings from the Saint Estèphe appellation. For sure, the bouquet is restrained, kept on a leash, but it trots along with crisp blackberry and raspberry fruit, interwoven with an attractive pencil lead note. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe tannin. It is structured and quite bold, considering the storm that swept across the appellation during harvest, clearly a lot of sorting here that engenders a clean and pure wine with appreciable mineralité and tension on the foursquare finish. If released at a sensible price, then this would be a recommended Saint Estèphe to consumer over 10-12 years. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0474320 (XD) 750mL **\$69.00**

CHÂTEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: A dazzling, towering wine, the 2015 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande has put on considerable weight in just the last few months. Today, the 2015 is vivid and intense, with a huge backbone of tannin and marvelous complexity. In 2015, the Cabernet Sauvignon is pushed higher as the Merlot was less consistent in its ripening. Graphite, charcoal, tobacco, crème de cassis and new leather are some of the signatures in what is shaping up to be a super-classic Pichon-Lalande. Simply put, the 2015 is one of the wines of the vintage. Tasted four times. Score - 96-98 (vinous.com)

0476176 (XD) 750mL **\$239.00**

CHÂTEAU PICHON-LONGUEVILLE-BARON 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: A wine of total seduction, the 2015 Pichon-Longueville Baron possesses exceptional richness, power and intensity, all in the suave, inviting style of the year. Silky, voluptuous and creamy, the 2015 is totally spherical on the palate. This is an undeniably charming Pichon-Baron that should drink beautifully for several decades. Hints of lavender, mint, violet and crème de cassis add the closing shades of nuance in this seamless, racy Pauillac. Score - 93-96 (vinous.com)

0474775 (XD) 750mL **\$229.00**

CHÂTEAU PONTET-CANET 2015

5e Cru

TASTING NOTE: Deep, velvety texture on the palate and wild flowers on the nose; unctuous yet firm with pristine clarity. A great wine by any standards - and the standards of Alfred Tesseron for his biodynamic vineyards and amphora-matured wine are magnificently evident. Drinking Window: 2022-2045. Score - 96 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0475434 (XD) 750mL **\$185.00**

CHÂTEAU RAUZAN-SÉGLA 2015

2e Cru

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Rauzan-Ségla is a blend of 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc cropped at 40 hl/ha between 10 September with the young Merlot vines and finishing with the Cabernet Sauvignon, which was picked between 22 September and 9 October. It is matured in 65% new oak for around 18 months. It has a very intense, almost crystalline bouquet with blackberry, briary, flint and just a touch of violet petal. There is incredible delineation here and the new wood is seamlessly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with extremely fine tannin, perfectly judged acidity, otherworldly purity and a mineralité rarely seen in this Margaux estate. This is a brilliant Rauzan-Ségla, not necessarily more powerful than previous vintages, though enhanced by its precision, frisson and energy, perhaps longer on the finish. Winemaker Nicolas Audebert has conspired with the benevolent growing season to produce a benchmark wine for the estate. Score - 96-98 (robertparker.com)

0475756 (XD) 750mL **\$139.00**

CHÂTEAU SIRAN 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Siran is a blend of 55% Merlot, 38% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot picked between 17 September to 12 October. It is raised in 25% new oak plus one-year barrels. It is a little richer and more opulent than its neighbor, the 2015 Dauzac, due to the higher proportion of Merlot. It veers to more red fruit here, wild strawberry and later cassis. The palate is smooth and sensual on the entry, very well defined with a keen thread of acidity. It grips the mouth, implying that there is more Cabernet than there actually is. I like the volume here, and unlike previous vintages that seemed to show some warmth on the finish, here the finish is much more linear and controlled, fanning out gracefully but with power emanating from that Merlot. This is likely to be proprietor Edouard Miaillhe's best wine in recent years. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0475889 (XD) 750mL **\$45.00**

CHÂTEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Smith-Haut-Lafitte is adorned with a special label to celebrate the 650th anniversary of the château and the 25th vintage made under the ownership of Daniel and Florence Cathiard. It is a blend of 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, picked between 23 September until 12 October with the Cabernet Franc. Matured in 65% new oak (although technical director Fabien Teitgen mentioned that he could have added more if he felt it would benefit), it has a very intense, blueberry and crème de cassis scented bouquet, a touch more opulent than its peers with hints of freshly shucked oyster shell developing with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with filigree tannin couched in gorgeous, satin-textured black cherry and cassis fruit, tinged with cedar and pencil shavings. It lingers very long and sensually in the mouth, completing a sophisticated and powerful Smith Haut-Lafitte that should age in splendid fashion. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475962 (XD) 750mL **\$145.00**

CHÂTEAU SOCIANDO-MALLET 2015

TASTING NOTE: Deep, rich fruit with lots of depth and potential complexity. Very good middle palate and a fine, firm finish. Drinking Window: 2021-2035. Score - 90 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0471870 (XD) 750mL **\$57.00**

CHÂTEAU TOUR SAINT CHRISTOPHE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Tour Saint-Christophe, owned by Peter Kwok since 2012, is a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc cropped at 33 hl/ha between 3-16 October and matured in 40% new oak. It has an intense nose, perhaps slightly on the alcoholic side due to the Merlot (14.8%). The palate is more controlled and refined. There is still some new oak to be absorbed, but the tannins seem fine, and it is endowed with blood orange and citrus fruit lending freshness and tension on the long, sensual finish. Bottle-age will temper the nose and it should ultimately turn into a very impressive Saint Emilion. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0468256 (XD) 750mL **\$43.00**

CHÂTEAU TROPLONG MONDOT 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Troplong Mondot is inky black in color. The nose was initially arresting with a carapace of toasty new oak, but it only takes several swirls of the glass for that to dissipate and leave scents of intense black fruit, crème de cassis, spice box and violets. It is verging on "heady" in style, powered along by that Merlot. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, layers of ripe, sensual, lavish black fruit interlaced with black pepper and clove. The acidity binds everything together, maintains control through to the finish that fans out nicely. It leans towards the hedonistic style of Saint Emilion, but it is not pushed over the edge as I have found in previous recent vintages. What it needs to develop is just the charm and personality of the finest Saint Emilion wines this vintage. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0475673 (XD) 750mL **\$199.00**

CHÂTEAU TROTANOY 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Trotanoy is one of the most exciting wines of the vintage. Inky, powerful and ample, the 2015 is all about raw energy. A host of dark cherry, plum, smoke, gravel and mineral nuances take shape in the glass. Don't expect the 2015 to be ready anytime soon. The tannins are going to need time to settle down. Still, the wine's pure power is remarkable. Trotanoy is 93% Merlot and 7% Cabernet Franc. Score - 95-97 (vinous.com)

0474916 (XD) 750mL **\$315.00**

CHÂTEAU VALANDRAUD 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Chateau Valandraud is founded upon Jean-Luc Thunevin's ever-reliable Merlot parcels, and this year the blend is augmented with 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. It has a glorious and damn irresistible bouquet of crème de cassis, blueberry, crushed violets and a scintilla of citrus fruit, all beautifully defined and very precise. In 2015 it is determined to put a gap between itself and the Virginie de Valandraud. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, creamy in texture but not in the slightest cloying. The acidity is well judged with layers of caressing black fruit towards a finish for which I could only deploy the word - nubile. This will be a stunning Valandraud to savor over the next couple of decades, though it will be difficult to resist temptation in its youth. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475665 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

CLOS DU MARQUIS 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Léoville-Las Cases

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Clos du Marquis is a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc cropped at 39 hl/ha between 22 September and 9 October, a total of 15 days of picking. Matured in 50% new oak, it has a pure and harmonious bouquet with blackberry, sous-bois and subtle tobacco aromas that gently unfold in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin in the mouth, a keen line of acidity, fine precision here with a mineral-rich finish that exudes terroir expression. This is a great Clos du Marquis from Jean-Hubert Delon and his team, a Clos du Marquis with swagger. Drink: 2020-2040. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0472043 (XD) 750mL **\$89.00**

CLOS FOURTET 2015

1er Grand Cru Classé (B)

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Clos Fourtet is a blend of 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc, and it was picked between 18 September and 12 October. It has a voluminous bouquet with sweet cassis and blueberry aromas, rather smudged with violets coming through with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with rounded tannin, ripe and voluptuous, dark chocolate infusing the red and black fruit with a touch of mint on the structured, graceful finish. What a fabulous Saint Emilion from Mathieu Cuvelier and his team - Clos Fourtet with breeding and class. It deserves 5-8 years in bottle. Drink: 2022-2045. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0474809 (XD) 750mL **\$175.00**

CLOS L'ÉGLISE 2015

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Clos l'Eglise was picked on 8, 14 and 23 September apropos the Merlot and the Cabernet Franc on 23 September. Co-proprietor Hélène Garçin-Léveque told me that for the first time, Clos l'Eglise was one of the first Pomerols to be picked since they felt that the grapes were fully ripe. So why wait? That clearly is vindicated by the bouquet with ebullient, ripe blackberry and wild strawberry fruit, almost Burgundy-like in terms of its purity. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine, tensile tannin, brimming over with energy, tightly packed towards the more linear finish than usual. This is a Clos l'Eglise built for long-term bottle ageing, though I suspect it will actually come round a little earlier than usual. A wonderful Pomerol, almost understated, but full of personality. Drink: 2022-2050. Score - 94-96 (robertparker.com)

0474304 (XD) 750mL **\$139.00**

CROIX DE DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU 2015

2nd Wine of Ducru-Beaucaillou

TASTING NOTE: Smooth, classy black fruits - a very polished wine from a separate vineyard with no young vines. Excitingly expressive and will develop very well. Drinking Window: 2020-2030. Score - 91 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0471888 (XD) 750mL **\$75.00**

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER 2015

Cru Classé

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Domaine de Chevalier is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot picked from 23 September until 15 October at just 35 hl/ha, matured in 35% new oak. It has a sophisticated bouquet that is more reserved than its peers. It possesses one of the most precise, detailed aromatic profiles that I have encountered from this estate, wonderfully poised with black fruit, incense and cold stone. It has wonderful focus and class. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin, very complex with lightly peppered black fruit. What marks this Domaine de Chevalier is the reserve and precision on the finish, a wine that is holding something back for its secondary evolution, a salinity that beckons you back for another sip. What a fabulous, intellectual wine from Olivier Bernard. Expect four decades of drinking pleasure - probably more - given my experience of ancient vintages. Tasted three times with consistent notes. Drink: 2022-2055. Score - 95-97 (robertparker.com)

0475566 (XD) 750mL **\$109.00**

ECHO DE LYNCH-BAGES 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Lynch-Bages

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Echo de Lynch Bages is a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon and 34% Merlot, matured in one-year-old barrels. It has a fragrant, finely tuned bouquet of blackberry, pencil lead and a touch of citrus fruit - scents that gently unfold in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin, the acidity well judged, gentle in the mouth, but building in fruit intensity to a pleasurable graphite-tinged finish. One of those deuxième vins where more is less. This is a well-crafted Echo...echo...echo... Drink: 2019 - 2032. Score - 89-91 (robertparker.com)

0474866 (XD) 750mL **\$63.00**

LE PETIT MOUTON 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Mouton Rothschild

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Le Petit Mouton is a blend of 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, matured in 40% new oak and the remainder one-year-old. It has a very intense bouquet for this deuxième vin, a far cry from the rustic wines produced in the 1990s. It is almost opaque, a wall of blackberry, cassis and tobacco aromas, perhaps the most powerful that I have ever tasted under this label. Over ten minutes, I noticed it become more sensual and rounded. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin, like the aromatics, incredibly powerful and assertive. Wonderful delineation here, very mineral-driven with a bravura of a finish. It begged the question...is this really a second wine? Maybe they should rename it "Le Grand Mouton"? It is amazing to think how humdrum vintages of this were in the 1990s. This is a completely different wine to those. Score - 91-93 (robertparker.com)

0476226 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

LE PIN 2015

TASTING NOTE: I have not had a Le Pin like this since the 1980s. It is so large and velvety textured yet remains agile and electric. The aromas are complex and complete with orange peel, chocolate and plum. Full and dense with an endless finish. Infinitely polished. The sweetness of fruit is impressive yet the wine remains fresh and dry. A new benchmark for Le Pin? Only 20 barrels made. Score - 100 (jamessuckling.com)

0477042 (XD) 750mL **\$2,500.00**

LES PAGODES DE COS 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Cos d'Estournel

TASTING NOTE: Very good crushed berry fruit and a much more elegant style than before. A polished wine with depth and spice, silky texture and exotic spices; very well made. Drinking Window: 2020-2030. Score - 91 (Steven Spurrier, decanter.com)

0475343 (XD) 750mL **\$79.00**

PAVILLON ROUGE 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Margaux

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux, which represents just 23% of the total production this year, has a higher percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon than other years, 74%, with 21% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot. It has a very refined bouquet, focused and extraordinarily pure with blackcurrant, blueberry and minerals. The 50% new oak is beautifully integrated here. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, a little more masculine than I was expecting, a Pavillon with firm structure imparted by that higher proportion of Cabernet. But the freshness is ample and there is a long, satisfying graphite note that seems to last forever on the finish. What a great deuxième vin, a stunning Pavillon Rouge. Score - 92-94 (robertparker.com)

0475327 (XD) 750mL **\$249.00**

RÉSERVE DE LA COMTESSE 2015

2nd Wine of Ch. Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande

TASTING NOTE: The 2015 Reserve de la Comtesse is a blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot. It has a very fine, quite sophisticated and pure bouquet with black cherries, cedar and violet aromas, perfumed and sensual. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, rounded tannin that is cloaked by layers of tobacco-tinged black fruit that segues into a long, lightly spiced finish. This is a delightful, quite serious deuxième vin that I suspect will age much longer than drinkers will afford it. Try to give this five years and you will be rewarded. Score - 90-92 (robertparker.com)

0475475 (XD) 750mL **\$65.00**

VIEUX CHÂTEAU CERTAN 2015

TASTING NOTE: One of the most exotic, flamboyant wines of the year, the 2015 Vieux Château Certan is rich, unctuous and seamless, with stunning depth and exceptional textural richness. In 2015, VCC is unusually deep and powerful. A host of rose petal, lavender, mint, spice and plum notes meld together, but it is the wine's overall intensity and spherical structure that stand out most. The 2015 is freakishly rich and likely to require at least 15 years to lose some of its baby fat. It was absolutely stellar on both occasions I tasted it. Score - 97-100 (vinous.com)

0476085 (XD) 750mL **\$375.00**