

Bordeaux 2018 En Primeur Offer

'2018 is an exceptional vintage for Bordeaux wines'

James Suckling

'At the very peak of quality, the 2018s are mind-blowingly incredible'

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com

'Bordeaux has another incredible vintage on their hands with 2018.'

Jeb Dunnuck

'Perhaps the closest we can come to a definition is 2009 meets 2016 on the Left Bank, and 1998 meets 2015 for the Right Bank'

Jane Anson, Decanter

'The best 2018s are positively stunning ... 2018 offers a tremendous amount of choice for the consumer, from everyday gems to the rarest of collectibles.'

Antonio Galloni

'I think it could turn out to be an all-time great, similar to 2010, 2009 and 1989 or even such classics as 1982 or 1959'

James Suckling

'A handful of properties have made the highest-quality wines this year that I have ever tasted from those estates'

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com

'Throughout Bordeaux, the crop was 30% below average. The silver lining is that the final wine is so darn good.'

Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast

'Regardless of how they were made, the majority of the 2018 reds in my tastings were beautifully structured with ripe fruit and potent tannins, yet there is an impressive drinkability to them, which is a great sign of quality.'

James Suckling

'Many believe the potential quality of the wines could be on par with classic vintages such as 1990, 2005 and 2010'

Wine Spectator

'The fact is that 2018 made excellent quality wines across the board from the simplest Bordeaux to the great names. This is a sign of an exceptional year'

James Suckling

'A few legends in the making are resting in barrel rooms right now'

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com

Contents

Vintage Summary	3
What Would I Buy?	4
Summary of Available Wines	5
St-Estèphe	8
Pauillac	9
St-Julien	12
Margaux	16
Graves & Pessac-Léognan Reds	19
Other Left Bank Reds	21
St-Emilion & Satellites	23
Pomerol & Lalande de Pomerol	31
Other Right Bank Reds	32
Dry Whites	33
Sauternes & Barsac	35
Mixed Cases	36
Terms & Conditions	37

Unless otherwise stated, prices are quoted 'in bond' and are exclusive of duty, VAT and delivery (expected in spring 2021). You will be notified by post once your wines have arrived. Bottle sizes are 75cl unless otherwise stated.

For full details please see our terms and conditions on Page 37.



Bordeaux 2018: Vintage Summary

A debate I still have with myself is the extent to which customers, when reading a Bordeaux report, are keen to hear about the vintage conditions and weather patterns over and above the styles and quality of the wines on offer? Last year, it was impossible to get away without a lengthy report on why the vintage turned out as it did. Thankfully, the dilemma is eradicated this year on account of what was a relatively simple vintage to explain, though to give credit to the vignerons, it was not a relatively simple vintage to tend to in the vineyards.

To quote a sporting metaphor, it was a vintage of two halves, the first half of the season being wet and pretty miserable from January through to July. The second half, full of sunshine, was very warm and made for perfect conditions come the harvest. There was a short spell at half time where mildew was a problem for vignerons, but that impacted quantity rather than quality, so aside from a lack of volume, it did not impact the final consumer too much. Those who farm organically and biodynamically suffered greatest with Mildew, Pontet-Canet for example only made about a third of a normal crop!

The ideal conditions prior to harvest did open up the vintage to interpretation as far as the winemaking was concerned, making it a bit of a blank canvas in many ways, so there some quite remarkable wines made and quite a variety of styles on offer. On the one hand, Troplong-Mondot, who under their previous ownership always harvested very late, making monstrous St Emilion, made a complete about face under new stewardship and harvested super-early from the 7th September, days before any of their neighbours were even considering it. Conversely, Pavie for example harvested up to a full one month later! In my time travelling to Bordeaux, I don't recall a vintage of such high quality which was impacted quite so much by the decisions of the winemakers as opposed to what mother nature threw at the vineyards, it made for quite an interesting week's tasting.

Many commentators did highlight that hydric stress as a result of the long, hot summer may have impacted the quality of wines from rapid-draining soils of gravel and sand more so than the traditionally less fashionable clay-based soils, but in my view there wasn't a particularly clear distinction in terms of quality between the two. What I certainly did notice was a gulf between those winemakers who were gentle with their extraction and those who perhaps pushed that aspect a little too far and ended up producing wines which lacked a little finesse, showing high alcohol and low acidity levels, but these were certainly in the minority.

There is little doubt that the peaks of 2018 are Mount Everest sized, there are some truly sensational wines but given the human factor, there is quite a contrast of styles and quality on offer. In 2018 I think you will benefit from being a little more selective but select well and you will no doubt have some memorable wines to look forward to. It is not a vintage which performed according to geographical location unlike say 1998 or 2005, so it's a challenge to generalise on which appellations performed well and those which did not. However, if I were pushed, I think St-Estèphe was the most consistent and was home to a higher proportion of wines I thought over-achieved. Conversely, Margaux was perhaps a little patchier and lacked some of its traditional characteristics of perfumed fruit and elegance. There were a few notable exceptions though, highlighted in my picks.

Unlike the reds, it is perhaps not a blockbuster vintage for dry whites and sweet wines. The dry white wines of Bordeaux I often think are vastly underrated in favour of more fashionable names from Burgundy. This year, they are generally quite opulent, rich and exotic with moderate to low acidity levels and they should be lovely in their youth. At the more affordable end there are some lovely wines to consider. In many ways the same is true with Sauternes and Barsac, although naturally the longevity of the sweet wines will be considerably greater than their dry white equivalents.



What would I buy?

Of course, the quality of the wine produced is only one of two vital elements to the equation. Pricing is the other. No matter how good Château X may be, if it's priced too high it should not appeal. Similarly, comparing prices from Château Y from 2001 versus 2018 is folly on account of the myriad of changes at many Châteaux in that time, for the better or for the worse. It is therefore difficult to ascertain the best buys without having had all the facts to hand.

Based simply on the quality of the wines we tasted and in the case of the 'Good Value Picks' the *likely* prices, my highlights of the vintage are listed below:

My Money No Object Picks of 2018		My Good Value Picks of 2018	
Wine	Appellation	Wine	Appellation
Château Beausejour Duffau-Lagarrosse	St-Emilion	Château Puygueraud	Francs Côtes de Bordeaux
Château Calon-Ségur	St-Estèphe	Château Gigault 'Cuvée Viva'	Côtes de Bordeaux Blaye
Château Cheval-Blanc	St-Emilion	Château Lalande Borie	St-Julien
Château Ducru-Beaucaillou	St-Julien	Château Meyney	St-Estèphe
Château Figeac	St-Emilion	Château La Garde	Pessac-Léognan
Château Lafite-Rothschild	Pauillac	Château Puy-Blanquet	St-Emilion
Château Lynch-Bages	Pauillac	Château Dalem	Fronsac
Château Montrose	St-Estèphe	Château Capbern	St-Estèphe
Château Pichon-Lalande	Pauillac	Château Haut-Brisson	St-Emilion
Château Rauzan-Ségla	Margaux	Château Les Ormes-de-Pez	St-Estèphe
Vieux Château Certan	Pomerol	Château Labégorce	Margaux
Château Clinet	Pomerol	Château Tour Saint Christophe	St-Emilion

As prices are released to the market, the equation becomes clearer and I'll update this section below with my thoughts as and when we have pricing information. Thus far, the wine below strikes me as being the best quality for the price they've released at and while I was not able to taste Château Laroque, on paper it looks to be a smashing buy with 95-97 Points from Lisa Perrotti-Brown and Jeb Dunnuck for a wine costing a modest £210 per 12 IB, so based on the glowing critics notes along I've included it in the list alongside wines of which I tried many a time during our visits to Bordeaux this year.

Name	AOC	Vintage	Colour	Score	Case Price
Château Puygueraud	Francs Côtes de Bordeaux	2018	Red	90-93 WS	£110 per 12 IB
Château La Garde	Pessac-Léognan	2018	Red	91-94 WS	£162 per 12 IB
Château Puy-Blanquet	St-Emilion Grand Cru	2018	Red	92-94 JD	£165 per 12 IB
Château Dalem	Fronsac	2018	Red	92-94+ RP	£170 per 12 IB
Château Capbern	St-Estèphe	2018	Red	92-94 JD	£188 per 12 IB
Château Laroque	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	2018	Red	95-97 RP	£210 per 12 IB
Marquis de Calon-Ségur	St-Estèphe	2018	Red	93-95 JD	£237 per 12 IB
Château Labégorce	Margaux	2018	Red	92-95 WS	£255 per 12 IB
Château Tour Saint Christophe	St-Emilion Grand Cru	2018	Red	96-97 JS	£268 per 12 IB
Château Pavie-Macquin	St-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé	2018	Red	97-99 JD	£316 per 6 IB

Gus McLean, Fine Wine Manager, April 2019 (Updated 8th May 2019)

Summary of Wines Released

Red	AOC	Score	Case Price (IB)
Château Puygueraud	Francs Côtes de Bordeaux	90-93 WS	£110 per 12
Château Sénéjac	Haut-Médoc	92-93 JS	£122 per 12
Château Lanessan	Haut-Médoc	92-93 JS	£124 per 12
Clos Floridène	Graves	90-93 WS	£132 per 12
Château Cantelaude-Borie	Moulis-en-Médoc	-	£72 per 6
Château Teyssier	St-Emilion Grand Cru	91-93 RP	£144 per 12
Château La Garde	Pessac-Léognan	91-94 WS	£162 per 12
Château Puy-Blanquet	St-Emilion Grand Cru	92-94 JD	£165 per 12
Château Dalem	Fronsac	92-94+ RP	£170 per 12
Château Joanin-Bécot	Côtes de Bordeaux Castillon	91-93 JD	£179 per 12
Château d'Arsac	Margaux	92-93 JS	£182 per 12
Château Capbern	St-Estèphe	92-94 JD	£188 per 12
Château Chantalouette	Pomerol	-	£205 per 12
Château Lilian-Ladouys	St-Estèphe	93-94 JS	£210 per 12
Château Laroque	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	95-97 RP	£210 per 12
Château Haut-Brisson	St-Emilion Grand Cru	95-96 JS	£222 per 12
Château Lalande Borie	St-Julien	91-94 JD	£229 per 12
Marquis de Calon-Ségur	St-Estèphe	93-95 JD	£237 per 12
Château Meyney	St-Estèphe	95-96 JS	£243 per 12
Château Cantemerle	Haut-Médoc 5ème Grand Cru Classé	94-95 JS	£246 per 12
Château Siran	Margaux	94-95 JS	£246 per 12
Château Les Ormes-de-Pez	St-Estèphe	93-94 JS	£250 per 12
Château Tour Maillet	Pomerol	94-95 JS	£250 per 12
Château Belgrave	Haut-Médoc 5ème Grand Cru Classé	93-94 JS	£252 per 12
Château La Tour Carnet	Haut-Médoc 4ème Grand Cru Classé	92-93 JS	£252 per 12
Château Labégorce	Margaux	92-95 WS	£255 per 12
Château Tour Saint Christophe	St-Emilion Grand Cru	96-97 JS	£268 per 12
Château Lynch-Moussas	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	93-94 JS	£329 per 12
Château Grand-Mayne	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	93-95 WE	£345 per 12
Château Gloria	St-Julien	93-96 WS	£346 per 12
Château Prieuré Lichine	Margaux 4ème Grand Cru Classé	94-96 WE	£348 per 12
Château de Fieuzal	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	93-95 WE	£360 per 12
Château Dauzac	Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé	92-95 WS	£360 per 12
Château Haut-Bages-Libéral	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	96-97 JS	£366 per 12
Château Marquis d'Alesme	Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé	95-97 JD	£190 per 6
Château Berliquet	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	93-96 JD	£395 per 12
Château Batailley	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	92-94 RP	£408 per 12
Château Malartic-Lagravière	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	92-95 RP	£208 per 6
Château d'Armailhac	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	92-94 JD	£420 per 12
Château Bellefont-Belcier	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	95-97 JD	£432 per 12

Château Langoa-Barton	St-Julien 3ème Grand Cru Classé	93-96 WS	£435 per 12
Château Bourgneuf	Pomerol	93-96 WS	£450 per 12
Château Branaire-Ducru	St-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé	94-97 WS	£462 per 12
Clos du Marquis	St-Julien	94-96 JD	£232 per 6
Château Malescot-St-Exupéry	Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé	97-98 JS	£246 per 6
Château St. Pierre	St-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé	94-97 JD	£254 per 6
Château Talbot	St-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé	94-95 JS	£259 per 6
Château Haut-Batailley	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	93-95+ JD	£270 per 6
Château Beau-Séjour-Bécot	St-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé	96-99 WS	£276 per 6
Château La Clotte	St Emilion	93-95 WE	SOLD OUT
Château Larcis-Ducasse	St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé	96-98 RP	£297 per 6
Château Pavie-Macquin	St-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé	97-99 JD	£316 per 6
Le Carré	St-Emilion Grand Cru	94-96 JD	£324 per 6
Domaine de Chevalier	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	99-100 JS	£325 per 6
Château Gruaud-Larose	St-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé	95-97 RP	£335 per 6
Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	95-98 WS	£336 per 6
Château Beychevelle	St-Julien 4ème Grand Cru Classé	95-97+ JD	£359 per 6
Château Clerc-Milon	Pauillac 5ème Grand Cru Classé	95-96 JS	£366 per 6
Château Léoville-Barton	St-Julien 2ème Grand Cru Classé	96-99 WS	£374 per 6
Château Clinet	Pomerol	96-99 JD	£385 per 6
Château Pape-Clément	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	96-98 RP	£397 per 6
Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion	Pessac-Léognan	95-98 AG	SOLD OUT
Vieux Château Mazerat	St-Emilion Grand Cru	97-99 CK	£426 per 6
Château Calon-Ségur	St-Estèphe 3ème Grand Cru Classé	97-100 JD	SOLD OUT
Carillon d'Angélys	St-Emilion Grand Cru	94-95 JS	£474 per 6
Les Astéries	St-Emilion Grand Cru	96-98 CK	£486 per 6
Château Hosanna	Pomerol	97-99 JD	SOLD OUT
Le Dôme	St-Emilion Grand Cru	98-100 CK	£744 per 6
Château Valandraud	St Emilion Grand Cru	96-99 WS	£770 per 6
Château Palmer 2 Cases Only	Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé	97-100 WS	£1446 per 6
Château Angélys	St-Emilion 1er Grand Cru Classé (A)	97-100 RP	SOLD OUT

Dry White	AOC	Score	Case Price (IB)
Château Thieuley Cuvée Francis Courselle	Bordeaux	90-91 JS	£80 per 12
Clos Floridène Blanc	Graves	90-93 WS	£154 per 12
Château La Garde Blanc	Pessac-Léognan	93-94 JS	£174 per 12
Château La Tour Carnet Blanc	Bordeaux	92-93 JS	£138 per 6
Château Malartic-Lagravière Blanc	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	94-95 JS	£230 per 6
Domaine de Chevalier	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	97-98 JS	£430 per 6
Château Pape-Clément Blanc	Pessac-Léognan Grand Cru Classé	94-96+ RP	SOLD OUT

Sweet White	AOC	Score	Case Price (IB)
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Laithwaite's

... FINE WINE ...

Château Doisy-Védrines (37.5cl)	Sauternes 2ème Cru Classé	90-92 RP	£140 per 12
Château Doisy-Daëne (37.5cl)	Barsac 2ème Cru Classé	92-94+ RP	£146 per 12
Château Coutet (37.5cl)	Barsac 1er Grand Cru Classé	93-95 RP	£184 per 12

(RP) www.RobertParker.com | (JR) www.jancisrobinson.com | Neal Martin (NM) www.vinous.com |
Wine Enthusiast (WE) www.winemag.com | (JD) www.jebdunnuck.com | Antonio Galloni (AG) www.vinous.com |
Decanter (DC) www.decanter.com | (JS) www.jamessuckling.com | Chris Kissack (CK) www.thewinedoctor.com

St-Estèphe

Château Capbern 2018
St-Estèphe



£188 per 12 IB
Drink to 2028
Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Jeb Dunnuck
91-94 Wine Spectator
17 Jancis Robinson

92-93 James Suckling
92 Decanter
90-92 Antonio Galloni

91-93 Robert Parker
93 Wine Enthusiast

“Deepest purple. Dark and stony, lovely slaty nose. Firm, chalky, dense and still with lovely freshness. Not the same richness as the 2009 but with great purity and definition. More serious, less seduction. Long and great structure. So pure in its dark cassis fruit. Cool with a touch of liquorice on the finish. Drink 2023-2029.”
17 Pts Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com April 2019

“A tasty, extremely appetising Capbern that, after tasting, makes you you already look forward to drinking in bottle. It has a real elegance to its black fruits, and the tannins have a softness and succulence to them, leading on to a mouthwatering finish. Harvest took place between 19 September and 8 October, around one week earlier than in a classic year according to Laurent Dufau, and yielding 37hl/ha. 3.7pH. 60% new oak. Drinking Window 2024 - 2036.”
92 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Marquis de Calon 2018
St-Estèphe



£237 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Robert Parker
93-95 Jeb Dunnuck

91-92 James Suckling
91-93 Antonio Galloni

17 Jancis Robinson
91 Decanter

“The 2018 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is a drop-dead gorgeous second wine from Calon Ségur. Bright, lifted and punchy, the 2018 has so much to offer. Expressive floral, savory and spiced notes from the Cabernet add shades of nuance to a core of dark red and purplish berry fruit. Beautifully textured and inviting, the Marquis is positively stunning in 2018. The blend is 53% Merlot and 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, mostly young vines planted between 2008 and 2012. It is a gorgeous second wine from Calon Ségur. Tasted four times.”
91-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

“Another second wine from this brilliant vintage that tastes more like a grand vin, the 2018 Le Marquis de Calon Segur offers a full-bodied, ripe, incredibly se*y profile that carries terrific amounts of currants, plums, graphite, and leafy herb-like aromas and flavors. A blend of 53% Merlot and 47% Cabernet Sauvignon brought up in 30% new French oak, it’s a head turner that’s going to drink spectacularly well right out of the gate.”
93-95 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Meyney 2018
St-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois



£243 per 12 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

95-96 James Suckling
94 Decanter

91-94 Antonio Galloni
89-91+ Robert Parker

90-93 Wine Spectator

“A very dense yet tight and focused red with blackcurrants, blackberries and hints of spices and walnuts. Full-bodied, very compact and long. Intense finish.”
95-96 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“It’s clear that this is hugely concentrated, as is the Montrose right next door, but there’s also beautiful juice and freshness underneath the black fruits and the powerful grip. Tannins, acidity and fruit: it’s all there. This is great quality and should be long-lived, with a rich palate, evenly balanced and austere in all the right places. Another good vintage at this increasingly impressive property. Drinking Window 2024 – 2040”
94 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Les Ormes de Pez 2018
St Estèphe Cru Bourgeois



£250 per 12 IB
Drink to 2036
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
90-92 Robert Parker

91-93+ Jeb Dunnuck
93 Decanter

16.5 Jancis Robinson
89-91 Antonio Galloni

"This has the luxurious kick of the Lynch Bages stable and is brilliant value for this level of quality. It seems to manage this every vintage and is just such a brilliant drinking wine. 2018 is another excellent year here, with deep fruitfulness of brambled hedgerow alongside liquorice and woodsmoke. It has a polyphenol index of 84IPT, so this is full of tannins but they don't feel overpowering. Tasted several times and always striking. 45% new oak. 3.57pH. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"

93 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

"Composed of 50% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot and aging in 45% new barriques, the deep purple-black colored 2018 Ormes de Pez leaps from the glass with vibrant blackberries, black cherries and mulberries scents plus touches of garrigue, tree bark and bay leaves. Medium to full-bodied with bags of muscular fruit, it has a firm, grainy texture and great freshness, finishing on an herbal lift."

90-92 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Pauillac

Château Lynch-Moussas 2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£329 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
91-93+ Robert Parker

92-94 Wine Enthusiast
91-94 Antonio Galloni

91 Decanter

"The 2018 Lynch Moussas is deep garnet-purple colored and begins with cedary scents giving way to cassis, warm plums and raspberry coulis with hints of oolong tea, Marmite toast, sautéed herbs and charcuterie. The full-bodied palate gives a good core of muscular fruit with firm, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing long and savory."

91-93+ Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"Very pretty and bright fruit, such as blackcurrants and blackberries. Full body and tight, firm tannins that are polished and beautiful. Gorgeous."

93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Château Haut-Bages-Libéral
2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£366 per 12 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

96-97 James Suckling
15 Jancis Robinson

92-95 Antonio Galloni

92 Decanter

"A fantastic wine with lovely depth of ripe fruit and transparency and beauty. Full bodied. Succulent and rich tannins to the gorgeous fruit. From biodynamically grown grapes."

96-97 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The 2018 Haut-Bages Libéral takes all of the signatures of the property and turns them up to 11. Rich, ample and yet also incredibly refined, the 2018 is a total knock-out. Super-ripe red cherry, plum, cedar, tobacco and star anise infuse this powerful, sumptuous Pauillac. Even with normal yields of 45 hectoliters per hectare, Haut-Bages Libéral is a stunningly deep, potent wine. The blend is 79% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot."

92-95 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com, April 2019

Château Batailley 2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£408 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Robert Parker
94 Decanter
91-94 Antonio Galloni

94-95 James Suckling
89-92 Wine Spectator
16 Jancis Robinson

93-95+ Jeb Dunnuck
92-94 Wine Enthusiast

“The grand vin 2018 Château Haut-Batailley is a beauty and is comprised of 59% Cabernet Sauvignon and 41% Merlot brought up in 60% new French oak. It's an attractive, elegantly styled wine that has lots of juicy Merlot notes of black cherries, graphite, scorched earth, and spice. Rich, medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced, and with terrific purity on the palate, this brilliant Pauillac is going to be approachable in just a few years and will evolve gracefully. This wine hit 14.3% alcohol with 3.61 pH and an IPT of 81. My money is on it being one of the best to date from this estate.”
93-95+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

“This has a less luxurious feel than some Pauillacs but it has an effortless to it that is not always the case in 2018 and still with the traditional edge of the appellation that you want from these estates with menthol, eucalyptus and cigar typicity. It has firm tannins with clear signs of well-controlled extractions and presents as rich purple with violet edging. I have had the 2009 vintage of Batailley a few times recently, and there is something here of the same generosity of spirit to the brambly fruits, with lovely juice running through what are clearly fairly hefty tannins. I'll be very surprised if this is not an exceptionally enjoyable bottle to open in eight to 10 years' time. Great stuff from owners Philippe and Frederic Casteja. A yield of 52h/ha. 3.6pH.”
94 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château d'Armailhac 2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£420 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

91-93 Robert Parker
94 Decanter

93-94 James Suckling
91-94 Wine Spectator

16.5+ Jancis Robinson
92-94 Wine Enthusiast

“The 2018 D'Armailhac (14.5% alcohol) is composed of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, harvested September 12 to October 3. Deep garnet-purple colored, it reveals a very fruity nose of crushed blackberries, warm black cherries and mulberries plus hints of potpourri, spice cake and pencil shavings. Full-bodied, the decadent palate delivers loads of black berry layers and a firm, grainy frame with underlying freshness and an earthy finish. Wonderfully opulent D'Armailhac!”
91-93 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“A soft and generous red with plum, tobacco and currant character and a delicious, full body and brightness. Juicy. Attractive, earthy aftertaste. Layered and dense.”
93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Château Haut-Batailley 2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£270 per 6 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

93-95+ Jeb Dunnuck
92-94 Robert Parker

94-95 James Suckling
89-92 Antonio Galloni

93 Decanter
92-95 Wine Spectator

“The grand vin 2018 Château Haut-Batailley is a beauty and is comprised of 59% Cabernet Sauvignon and 41% Merlot brought up in 60% new French oak. It’s an attractive, elegantly styled wine that has lots of juicy Merlot notes of black cherries, graphite, scorched earth, and spice. Rich, medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced, and with terrific purity on the palate, this brilliant Pauillac is going to be approachable in just a few years and will evolve gracefully. This wine hit 14.3% alcohol with 3.61 pH and an IPT of 81. My money is on it being one of the best to date from this estate.”
93-95+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

“This is a lovely wine from the second vintage under Lynch Bages’ ownership, full of power and poise and controlled precision. It has a slightly unusual blend owing to a greater proportion of Merlot than has been used in previous vintages, but it doesn’t suffer in terms of concentration due to the thick skins and structure of the Merlots in 2018, and what you get instead is a creamy, velvety texture through the mid palate. It has lots of tannins but they have the enrobed quality that comes from the higher than usual alcohols, and are extremely seductive. It’s more lightly framed than the Lynch Bages, as it was in 2017, and is enjoyable. 3.61pH. 81IPT. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036”
93 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste
2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£336 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

95-98 Wine Spectator
92-94+ Robert Parker
95 Decanter

94-95 James Suckling
94 Decanter

93-96 Antonio Galloni
17.5 Jancis Robinson

“This captures the style of the vintage to a T, with vividly ripe cassis and plum fruit, carried by solidly built but fine-grained structure. Lots of graphite and tobacco accents hang in the background for now. A firmly grounded wine.”
95-98 Pts James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, March 2019

“Another success from Grand-Puy-Lacoste – it’s bright and full of juice, prioritising vibrancy over power. As such, it has a touch less Pauillac typicity than in the absolutely brilliant 2016 vintage at this estate, although as it unfurls through the palate you do get the menthol, cassis and smoked cedar that is just such a beautiful sign of ripe Cabernet up in this corner of the world. They were extremely careful with extraction because of the high alcohols, so grapes underwent the shortest maceration to date with no pumping over just an infusion during the extraction process. Harvest took place between 21 September and 5 October. 12% press wine. 75% new oak used. A yield of 40hl/ha. Drinking Window 2026 - 2040
95 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Clerc-Milon 2018
Pauillac 5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£366 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

93-95 Robert Parker
96 Decanter

95-96 James Suckling
93-96 Wine Spectator

17 Jancis Robinson
93-95 Wine Enthusiast

"The progression of this property continues to be evident in the glass with a beautiful classicism, full of life and layers comprising dark spice and touches of black pepper against blueberry and cool fruits, pumped up by black chocolate and liquorice. It's confident and clearly has a fierce quality to the tannins giving a long life ahead of it. The harvest started on September 17, one week later than Mouton because of its cooler terroir, with the blend completed by 3% Petit Verdot and 1% Carmanère. This is the last vintage with Jean-Emmanuel Donjoy at the helm as he's making his way over to Mouton-Rothschild to work alongside Philippe Dhalluin. A tough gig to turn down of course, but I will miss the work he has done here and look forward to seeing what his successor will add. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"
96 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

"The 2018 Clerc Milon is composed of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot and 1% Carménère. Grapes were harvested a bit later here than at Mouton, from September 17 to October 10. Deep garnet-purple colored, it leaps from the glass with bold scents of warm cassis, blackberry compote and dark chocolate with hints of Morello cherries, baking spices and dried roses plus a waft of underbrush. It has a wonderfully rich, confidently sensuous palate with plenty of spicy layers and a velvety texture, finishing long and perfumed. This should age incredibly."
93-95 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

St-Julien

Château Gloria 2018
St-Julien Cru Bourgeois



£346 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Robert Parker
91-94 Antonio Galloni
92-94 Jeb Dunnuck

93-96 Wine Spectator
93-94 James Suckling

92-94 Wine Enthusiast
93 Decanter

"The 2018 Gloria is deep garnet-purple colored and gives up expressive notions of warm red and black currants, black cherries and boysenberries with hints of spice cake, cedar chest, pencil lead and menthol. Full-bodied with a firm texture of ripe, grainy tannins, it has a lively line cutting through the dense, savory layers, finishing on a lingering spicy note. The blend is currently 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc. Anticipated aging is for 14 months in oak barriques, 40% new."
92-94 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"Readers looking for an estate on the uptick need to check out the 2018 Château Gloria, which is up with the finest vintages I've tasted from this Saint-Julien estate. Deeply colored with terrific cassis and blackberry fruits as well as ample leafy herbs and sappy flower notes, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, has polished, elegant tannins, and a great finish. It's a juicy, fruit-forward effort with good concentration and lots of class. Drink it over the coming 25 years or more. The blend is currently 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, and the balance Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, from a selection of 65% of the total production, that's currently resting in 40% new French oak."
92-94 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Langoa-Barton 2018
St-Julien 3^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£435 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

93-96 Wine Spectator
93 Decanter
90-93 Antonio Galloni

93-94 James Suckling
91-94 Jeb Dunnuck
17.5 Matthew Jukes

92-94 Robert Parker
92-94 Wine Enthusiast

"There's real freshness to the crushed-raspberry and blueberry character of this young red. Medium-to full-bodied and zingy with energetic tannins. Crisp finish. Lovely purity of fruit to this."

93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"I was really impressed with the 2018 Langoa Barton. Fresh, floral and silky, with tremendous fruit purity, the 2018 is delicate and understated to the core. Langoa is always one of the most gracious wines of Saint-Julien. The 2018 has an extra kick of textural resonance that makes it incredibly appealing and delicious. The 2018 is an especially fine Langoa Barton. Tasted two times."

90-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Branaire-Ducru 2018
St-Julien 4^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£462 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

95-96 James Suckling
92-94 Robert Parker
93 Decanter

93-96 Antonio Galloni
94-96 Wine Enthusiast

94-97 Wine Spectator
16.5 Jancis Robinson

"This is a fantastic Branaire with deep and dark fruit, such as blackberries and blackcurrants. Lots of raspberries, too. Full-bodied with firm and creamy tannins and a super long finish. We will see if it's better than 2016, but on its way."

95-96 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The 2018 Branaire-Ducru is fabulous. Bright, lifted and impeccably precise, the 2018 is one of the best recent Branaires I can remember tasting. The 2018 is distinguished by its vertical lift, striking aromatic intensity and exceptional balance. Lavender, rose petal, gravel, mint and sweet red/purplish berry fruit are all given an extra kick of textural richness. More than anything else, I was blown away by the wine's density and precision. The 2018 is dazzling. There's not much else to say. Well, except the obvious question, which is why is Branaire not at this level every year? The 2018 is 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 4% Cabernet Franc. Tasted three times."

93-96 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Clos du Marquis 2018
St-Julien



£232 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040+
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96 Jeb Dunnuck
90-93 Antonio Galloni
17 Jancis Robinson

94-95 James Suckling
91 Decanter
17.5 Matthew Jukes

92-94 Robert Parker
93-95 Wine Enthusiast
92-95 Wine Spectator

"The 2018 Clos du Marquis is composed of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc, with 13% press wine added back to the blend. Grapes were harvested September 18 to October 10, with yields of 35.5 hectoliters per hectare, and the wine has 14.5% alcohol. It will be aged in barriques, 55% new. The finished blend was put into barrels last December. Deep purple-black in color, it displays flamboyant scents of kirsch, crushed black cherries and warm cassis with hints of cinnamon stick, underbrush and chocolate box plus a waft of sandalwood. Full-bodied and built like a brick house with firm, grainy tannins and bold freshness supporting the muscular fruit, it finishes long and spicy."

92-94 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"Rocking stuff, the 2018 Clos du Marquis checks in 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and 6% Cabernet Franc that hit 14.5% alcohol with a healthy pH of 3.64 and an IPT of 79. It boasts a deep, saturated purple color as well as ripe, powerful, yet complex aromatics. Full-bodied and rich, with a stacked mid-palate, this beauty builds on the palate with ripe, polished tannin, ample oomph, and a great finish. It's a powerful, concentrated wine from the team at Léoville Las Cases that will benefit from 5-7 years of bottle age and keep for two decades."

94-96 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com April 2019

Château St. Pierre 2018
St-Julien 4^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£254 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96 Robert Parker
94-97 Jeb Dunnuck

92-95 Antonio Galloni
93-94 James Suckling

92-95 Wine Spectator
95 Decanter

"A powerful, virile wine, the 2018 Saint-Pierre is also one of the highlights of the vintage. Black cherry, graphite, smoke, leather, menthol, violet and spice meld together in a brooding, tannic Saint-Julien that is going to need a bit of time to truly come into its own. Saint-Pierre is muscular, massively tannic and forbidding, and yet there is a ton of fruit behind all of that structure. Cabernet Sauvignon features heavily in the blend, and that comes through in the wine's flavor profile and overall feel. Readers will have to be patient. I can't wait to taste it from bottle. The 2018 is 77% Cabernet Sauvignon and 23% Merlot. Tasted four times."

92-95 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"A St-Julien name that I can't recommend highly enough, Château Saint-Pierre 2018 is extremely architectural in feel, a beautiful, confident, masculine, muscled wine with vertical walls - although it's interesting to note it has slightly lower alcohol than some other St-Juliens. It's intense in its black fruit and charcoal character, rippling with tannins. I am full of admiration for this impressive wine that demands your attention. Drinking Window 2027 – 2040"

95 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Talbot 2018
St-Julien 4^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£259 per 6 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

94-95 James Suckling
94 Decanter
91-94 Antonio Galloni

93-95 Jeb Dunnuck
93-95 Wine Enthusiast
17.5 Matthew Jukes

93-96 Wine Spectator
91-93 Robert Parker
16.5+ Jancis Robinson

"Very attractive core of pretty fruit and polished yet chewy tannins. Medium to full body, integrated tannins and a driven finish. One of the best Talbots in a long time."

94-95 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"This estate is on a roll and the 2018 Château Talbot might just be the best yet. A deep purple/blue color is followed by a mammoth-sized bouquet of crème de cassis, dark chocolate, tobacco, and lead pencil. Rich, full-bodied, and powerful, it nevertheless stays pure, balanced, and elegant, with a beautiful finish. Its tannins are ripe and integrated, it has balancing acidity, and this is unquestionably another beautiful vintage for this estate."

93-95 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Gruaud-Larose 2018
St-Julien
2^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£335 per 6 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

95-97 Robert Parker
89-92 Antonio Galloni

95-96 James Suckling
92-94 Wine Enthusiast

94 Decanter
18+ Matthew Jukes

"The 2018 Gruaud Larose is blended of 67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot and 9% Cabernet Franc, with a pH of 3.88 and 14.2% alcohol. Deep garnet-purple in color, it leaps from the glass with bold black cherries, mulberries, plum preserves and blackcurrant cordial scents with hints of menthol, lilacs, licorice and cloves plus wafts of fallen leaves and tilled soil. Medium to full-bodied with a taut core of ripe, densely packed, muscular fruit, it has a firm line of ripe, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and spicy. Very exotic Gruaud!"

95-97 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"This is really generous and rolls off the tongue with ripe and velvety tannins and a fresh undertone. Full-bodied, firm and silky. Extremely long and flavorful. Very complex already."

95-96 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Château Beychevelle 2018
St-Julien 4^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£359 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2040+
 Arriving Spring 2021

95-97+ Jeb Dunnuck
94-96 Robert Parker

93-94 James Suckling
94-97 Wine Spectator

93-96 Antonio Galloni
18.5 Matthew Jukes

"The 2018 Beychevelle is an exceptional, utterly vivid wine. Deep and beautifully layered in the glass, the 2018 has so much to offer. Super-ripe black cherry, crème de cassis, licorice, new oak and chocolate infuse this unctuous, spectacularly ripe Saint-Julien. Beychevelle is exotic, flamboyant and full-throttle, not to mention absolutely stunning. The high presence of Merlot in the blend gives Beychevelle much of its sensuality. What a wine! The 2018 is 50% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc. Tasted three times."

93-96 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"Showing beautifully both times I was able to taste it, the 2018 Château Beychevelle checks in as a blend of 50% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, and the rest Cabernet Franc that's aging in 60% new French oak. This ultra-pure, refined, gorgeously layered Beychevelle offers terrific notes of black cherries, blackberries, cassis, violets, and damp earth. Deep, concentrated, and layered on the palate, it has a thrilling sense of purity and elegance as well as building structure. This is the third vintage vinified in the new cellar, and the 2018 represents a selection of 50% of the total production. It hit 14.5% alcohol with a healthy pH of 3.74 and a massive IPT of 81. Hats off to director Romain Ducolomb for another brilliant wine that I suspect will surpass both the 2015 and 2016!"

95-97+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Léoville-Barton 2018
St-Julien 2^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£374 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2040+
 Arriving Spring 2021

96-99 Wine Spectator
96 Decanter
96 Wine Enthusiast

94-96 Robert Parker
93-96 Antonio Galloni
17 Jancis Robinson

95-97+ Jeb Dunnuck
95-96 James Suckling
97-99 Chris Kissack

"I loved the 2018 Léoville-Barton. It's a classic, structured, backward wine based on 82% Cabernet Sauvignon and 18% Merlot that's still resting in 60% new French oak. While never the most showy or opulent, this team always fashions a fresh, focused, incredibly age-worthy wine, and the 2018 follows suit, revealing a vivid purple color, notes of crème de cassis, crushed violets, salty minerality, and lead pencil shaving-like aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, concentrated, and incredibly elegant on the palate, it has building tannins, flawless balance, and integrated acidity, all making for a wine that's going to demand upwards of a decade of bottle age yet keep for 40 years or more. The tannin quality here is exceptional and this is a wine you won't regret having in the cellar."

95-97+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"They are just hitting it out of the park at Léoville Barton at the moment, keeping the relaxed and effortless feel of a great St-Julien but loading up on the complexity and concentration that lies behind it. You don't see all the mechanisms, but you know they are there. This is going to age exceptionally well, but there's a freshness and juiciness to the structure already that suggests it's going to be great fun to drink along the way. It has glass-staining extraction, with plenty of cassis, graphite and liquorice flavours - everything's turned up high. 60% new oak. Drinking Window 2027 - 2042."

96 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019



Margaux

**Château Siran 2018
Margaux Cru Bourgeois**



£246 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

**94-95 James Suckling
92-95 Wine Spectator**

**91-93 Robert Parker
93 Decanter**

**93-95 Wine Enthusiast
89-92 Antonio Galloni**

"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Siran opens with quietly spoken notions of baked blackberries, blackcurrant cordial and bay leaves with hints of scorched earth, tar and tobacco. The full-bodied palate is restrained and elegantly played with subtle earth layers among the black fruit and a solid foundation of ripe, grainy tannins, finishing with earth and mineral nuances."

91-93 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"Another impressive Margaux in this vintage. It's a big wine with real structure and ageing ability, but it isn't too tight and is not too obviously pushing its agenda. This is a lovely Siran packed full of tannins, fruit and acidity - the triumvirate. It has excellent mouthfilling blackberry and pepper notes, with a pretty high kick of acidity on the finish, marked by its Petit Verdot. Harvest ran from 20 September to 13 October, with a yield of 45hl/ha. It is planned to age the 2018 in 35% new oak for 12 months. 1% Cabernet Franc makes up the blend. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"

93 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

**Château Labégorce 2018
Margaux Cru Bourgeois**



£255 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

**93-96 Jeb Dunnuck
91-93+ Robert Parker
90-93 Antonio Galloni**

**93-94 James Suckling
92-95 Wine Spectator
16+ Jancis Robinson**

**93-95 Wine Enthusiast
93 Decanter**

"Another winner from Margaux is the 2018 Château Labégorce, which is an interesting blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, and the rest equal parts Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot (although I was given slightly different blends for the two samples tasted). Aging in 40% new oak, this deeply colored effort offers a beautiful perfume of blueberries, raspberries, flowers, and spice. It's medium to full-bodied, has remarkable purity, and fine tannins, and should be approachable right out of the gate. It's worth mentioning this estate has been managed by Marjolaine de Coninck since 2009, and it's a rocking value in the market today. Tasted twice."

93-96 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"2018 is the first year for eight vintages that this wine is back to being 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, after replantings have come on line. That helps, perhaps, with the lift it shows even in this extremely concentrated year. It's a lovely Labégorce, with some bouncy, chewy tannins alongside blue and bramble fruits and some spice. As it opens up, a more floral character comes out. Harvested between 20 September and 15 October, producing a 35hl/ha yield - less from mildew and more a consequence of the frost in 2017 that affected growth in some areas. There were also some young Cabernet vines on gravel that over-concentrated. Aged in 40% new oak from six forests in Germany and Austria as well as France. 3% Petit Verdot makes up the blend. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"

93 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Prieuré-Lichine 2018
Margaux
4ème Grand Cru Classé



£348 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
92-95 Antonio Galloni

90-93 Jeb Dunnuck
94 Decanter

17 Jancis Robinson
91-93 Robert Parker

“The 2018 Prieuré-Lichine is gorgeous. Bright and racy in the glass, the 2018 impresses with its magnificent purity of fruit. In 2018, Prieuré-Lichine has terrific energy and cut. It is perhaps a bit less creamy than the 2016, but also impeccable in its balance. Part of that is driven by the higher percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend in 2018. Rose petal, lavender, mint and spice add nuance to a core of red/purplish fruit. Tasted two times.”
93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

“Prieuré Lichine has done a great job of capturing the rich concentration in the cassis and blackberry fruits that are easily found in 2018, wrapped up perfectly in juicy, vibrant strands of acidity and tannin. There’s no question that this is an intense wine, and although the alcohol is not especially high it has a generous texture. Spice notes lend a sense of uplift to balance out the exuberance of the palate. I expect this will close down for a good few years before coming into its own. Prieuré Lichine operate a gravity-fed winery for gentle handling of the fruit. 2018 saw a yield of 35hl/ha. Aged in 45% new oak. Drinking Window 2027 - 2042”
94 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Dauzac 2018
Margaux 5ème Grand Cru Classé



£360 per 12 IB
Drink to 2029
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
87-89 Robert Parker

93 Decanter
16.5 Jancis Robinson

92-95 Wine Spectator

“This is very structured and muscular, yet the tannins are so melted and polished. Full-bodied. Intense. Best ever?”
93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“Very expressive, with fresh lilac, plum and crushed cherry aromas and flavors. Subtle wood spice notes are gently infused through the velvety finish. Alluring.”
92-95 Pts James Molesworth, WineSpectator.com April 2019

Château Marquis d'Alesme 2018
Margaux 3ème Grand Cru Classé



£190 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040+
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96 Robert Parker
94 Decanter

94-95 James Suckling
92-95 Antonio Galloni

95-97 Jeb Dunnuck
93-96 Wine Spectator

“Under the helm of Marjolaine de Coninck and consultant Michel Rolland, this estate has been on fire, and their 2018 Château Marquis d'Alesme Becker might just be the best yet. Comprised of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and 5% each of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot aging in 65% new oak, this deeply colored Margaux offers a thrilling bouquet of crème de cassis, high-class smoke tobacco, graphite, and earth. Full-bodied, pure, beautifully concentrated, and structured, it has a backward, primordial feel and is going to need a solid 7-8 years of bottle age, but it’s a brilliant Margaux readers should snatch up! Tasted twice.”
95-97 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

“The 2018 Marquis d'Alesme is gorgeous. In 2018 Marquis d'Alesme is far more aromatically complex and more nuanced than it has been in the recent past. Sweet floral, savory and spice add striking layers of dimension. The fruit is especially vibrant, with none of the overextracted notes or heaviness that plagued some recent vintages. The 2018 is really impressive. The blend is 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Franc. I can't wait to taste it from bottle.”
92-95 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Malescot-St-Exupéry
2018
Margaux 3^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£246 per 6 IB
Drink to 2038
Arriving Spring 2021

97-98 James Suckling
94-96 Robert Parker

94-96 Jeb Dunnuck
93-96 Antonio Galloni

93 Decanter
93-96 Wine Spectator

“The deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Malescot St. Exupery comes prancing out of the glass with flamboyant raspberry coulis, kirsch and redcurrant jelly scents over a fresh blackcurrant and boysenberry core with wafts of red roses, cinnamon stick and forest floor. Full-bodied, rich and opulent in the mouth, the palate delivers stacks of red fruit, cassis and floral layers with a firm, finely grained frame and plenty of freshness, finishing long and fragrant. Just lovely.”

94-96 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“Tasted twice and showing incredibly well both times, the 2018 Château Malescot Saint-Exupery comes from a 28-hectare vineyard in the heart of Margaux and is a rough blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. This full-bodied Margaux has everything you could want from this appellation, offering incredibly complex notes of cassis, tobacco, earth, and spice, full body, sweet tannins, no hard edges, and a great, great finish. It’s an incredibly s*xy, flawlessly balanced beauty that’s going to be relatively approachable in its youth yet age effortlessly on its balance and purity.”

94-96 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Palmer 2018
Margaux 3^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£1446 per 6 IB
Drink to 2045+
Arriving Spring 2021

97-99 Robert Parker
98-100 Decanter
97-100 Wine Spectator

19.5+ Matthew Jukes
97-99 Wine Enthusiast
95-98 Antonio Galloni

95-97+ Jeb Dunnuck
94-95 James Suckling
18.5 Jancis Robinson

“The 2018 Palmer is composed of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 7% Petit Verdot. Grapes were harvested September 13 to October 15, and the wine has a 3.83 pH and 14.3% alcohol. Very deep purple-black in color, the nose is a little reticent to begin, but with coaxing, it slowly emerges to show fragrant violets, underbrush, mossy bark and iron ore with exponentially growing notions of crème de cassis, Black Forest cake, plum preserves, hoisin, Christmas cake and red roses with wafts of dusty earth, Indian spices and cracked black pepper. Full-bodied, concentrated and downright powerful in the mouth, it has a solid structure of firm, wonderfully plush tannins and masses of fragrant accents, finishing very long and very spicy. By the time I finished tasting this, the nose had exploded in this fragrant bomb of fruit, earth and floral notions. This is one of those 2018 wines that has a beguiling brightness that comes from the many floral, spice and mineral accents among all that rich fruit. WOW!”

97-99 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“The 2018 Palmer is a freak of nature from yields of just 11 hectoliters per hectare harvested over an entire month by CEO Thomas Duroux and his team. Rich, unctuous and flamboyant in its ripeness, the 2018 possesses off the charts intensity from start to finish. Blackberry jam, espresso, crème de cassis, licorice, menthol, lavender and cloves develop in a palate-staining, hedonistic Palmer that oozes with personality. This extravagantly ripe Margaux won’t be for everyone, but it is a stunning, head-spinning wine that may, in time, very well join the ranks of the truly epic Palmers. A wine of pure and total pleasure, the 2018 is nearly impossible to resist. The blend is 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 7% Petit Verdot. In 2018, Palmer bottled just their Grand Vin and no Alter Ego.”

95-98 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019



Graves & Pessac-Léognan Reds

**Clos Floridène 2018
Graves**



£132 per 12 IB
Drink to 2025
Arriving Spring 2021

90-93 Wine Spectator

89-91 Antonio Galloni

“The 2018 Clos Floridène is loaded with character and personality. Savory herb, licorice, leather and menthol grace this aromatically expressive, striking Graves red from the Dubourdieu family. Don't let the modest price tag fool you - Clos Floridène is a serious wine with a real character. Tasted two times.”
89-91 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

“Streamlined and fresh in feel, offering a polished beam of cherry and red currant notes laced with subtle tobacco and mineral hints. Sleek finish.”
90-93 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

**Château La Garde 2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé**



£162 per 12 IB
Drink to 2030
Arriving Spring 2021

**91-94 Wine Spectator
91 Decanter
16.5 Jancis Robinson**

**92-93 James Suckling
89-91 Antonio Galloni**

**91-93 Jeb Dunnuck
87-89 Robert Parker**

“The 2018 Château La Garde is impressive and reveals a glass-staining purple color as well as tons of black fruits (there's some red fruit as well), spice, leather, and earthy nuances. Medium to full-bodied, it's beautifully textured, has outstanding balance, nicely integrated tannins and acidity, and a great finish. It's another terrific Pessac-Léognan that's going to dish out plenty of pleasure with just a few years of bottle age and keep for 10-15 years.”
91-93 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, April 2019

“The La Garde vineyard has one north-facing gravel slope and one south-facing clay-limestone slope, giving the estate a good balance of ripening dates in most vintages. In another sign of how unusual 2018 was, both Cabernet and Merlot on these different slopes ripened at the same time, so they were co-fermented in one tank. Unusual for sure, but the result is excellent. They do such a good job here of making accessible but polished and elegant Pessacs. This is smooth, ripe and welcoming, with a seductive expansion through the mid-palate that emphasises the creamy texture of the fruits. Definitely as good as the 2016, maybe better. Drinking Window 2023 – 2038”
92 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

**Château de Fieuzal 2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé**



£360 per 12 IB
Drink to 2030+
Arriving Spring 2021

**92-93 James Suckling
93-95 Wine Enthusiast
88-91 Antonio Galloni**

**91-93 Robert Parker
88-91 Wine Spectator**

**94 Decanter
16 Jancis Robinson**

“Very attractive center palate with dark-berry, walnut and cedar character. Just a hint of bark. Medium-bodied. Juicy finish.”
92-93 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“This feels closed in and confident but is not giving much away. It has a silky texture with firm and bristling tannins - you can feel the latent power, pretty much in line with 2010 or 2016 in terms of its construction. Licorice and dark chocolate are joined by freshly cut herbs and black pepper notes. Great stuff. The winemaker is Stephen Carrier, with no consultant used. Drinking Window 2025 - 2034.”
94 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Malartic-Lagravière
2018 Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé



£208 per 6 IB
Drink to 2038
Arriving Spring 2021

92-95 Antonio Galloni
92-95 Wine Spectator
16 Jancis Robinson

93-94 James Suckling
91-93 Jeb Dunnuck

92-94 Robert Parker
94-96 Wine Enthusiast

"The 2018 Malartic Lagravière is powerful, rich and explosive, all while retaining a mid-weight sense of structure. Black cherry, plum, gravel, chocolate, leather, lavender spice and licorice all run through this driving, juicy Pessac Léognan. I very much admire the weight and substance here. The blend is 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, with the Cabernet very much front and center. Tasted three times."

92-95 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"The medium-bodied 2018 Château Malartic-Lagravière comes from high-density plantings on gravelly soils and is a rough blend at this point of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc representing only 55% of the total production. Elegant notes of dark fruits (cassis, blackberries), gravelly earth, and forest floor all flow to a seamless Graves that has good balance, some grainy tannins, good mid-palate density, and ample length. It's certainly going to be an outstanding wine. Tasted twice."

91-93 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Domaine de Chevalier 2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé



£325 per 6 IB
Drink to 2045
Arriving Spring 2021

99-100 James Suckling
96-98 Jeb Dunnuck

94-97 Antonio Galloni
94-96+ Robert Parker

94-97 Wine Spectator
96 Decanter

"Wow. I can't get over the pureness of fruit in this wine with so much currant, tar and wet-earth character. Flowers, too. So aromatic. Full body, yet pureness and brightness of fruit. Layered. Incredible depth and beauty. 65 per cent cabernet sauvignon, 30 per cent merlot and 5 per cent petit verdot. Greatest ever?"

99-100 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The 2018 Domaine de Chevalier is magnificent. Bright, lifted and wonderfully nuanced, the 2018 has so much to offer. Olivier Bernard turned out a dazzling Domaine de Chevalier in 2018 that speaks to precision and nuance above all else. Rose petal, mint, savory herbs and crushed rocks add striking aromatic top notes to this stunning, breathtakingly beautiful wine. The tannins need time to soften, but I doubt readers will be in a rush. The 2018 is simply majestic - that's all there is to it. The blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot. Tasted three times."

94-97 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Pape-Clément 2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé



£397 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040+
Arriving Spring 2021

96-98 Robert Parker
97-98 James Suckling

93-96 Antonio Galloni
95-97 Jeb Dunnuck

95-98 Wine Spectator
95 Decanter

"From Bernard Magrez's flagship estate, the 2018 Château Pape Clément checks in as a tentative blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc that will spend 18 months in 60% new French oak. This ripe, full-bodied, opulent beauty knocks it out of the park and boasts a saturated purple color to go with a monster bouquet of cassis and blackberry fruits intermixed with notes of smoked earth, graphite, spicy oak, and spring flowers. Possessing ripe, silky tannins (and plenty of them), remarkable purity of fruit, a stacked mid-palate, and a great, great finish, it ranks in the top tier in the vintage, and despite having the fruit to drink nicely in its youth, it's going to age effortlessly. It might very well be the finest wine from this estate in the past decade or more. Tasted on three separate occasions."

95-97 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"This wine is a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc to be aged for approximately 18 months in oak barriques, 60% new. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Pape Clément is a little closed, slowly unfurling to reveal fragrant earth, crushed rocks, iron ore and tobacco notions over a core of crushed red and black currants plus kirsch, red roses and Ceylon tea. Full-bodied and wonderfully vivacious, it offers a solid line of firm and fine-grained tannins and amazing freshness, finishing very long and mineral laced."

96-98 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Other Left Bank Reds

Château Sénéjac 2018
Haut-Médoc



£122 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2030
 Arriving Spring 2021

92-93 James Suckling
89-91 Antonio Galloni

90-92 Robert Parker
16 Jancis Robinson

90 Decanter

“The purity of the fruit is very pretty with so much blueberry and blackcurrant character. Medium-to full-bodied. Both the acidity and the tannins are bright and fresh.”
 92-93 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“The 2018 Sénéjac is powerful, racy and super-expressive. Floral and savory notes add striking shades of nuance to the dark fruit as this gorgeous Haut-Médoc opens in the glass. Pliant and rich in the glass, with striking aromatic top notes Sénéjac is brilliant in 2018. Best of all, it should be a tremendous value.”
 89-91 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Lanessan 2018
Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois



£124 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2035+
 Arriving Spring 2021

89-91+ Robert Parker
88-91 Antonio Galloni

92-93 James Suckling

92 Decanter

“The 2018 Lanessan is a striking Haut-Médoc. Pliant, supple and inviting, the 2018 has so much to offer. Bright floral notes and soft, pliant red plum fruit give the wine tons of immediacy and pure appeal. Tasted two times.”
 88-91 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

“I have enjoyed Lanessan over the last few years, and there's a lot to take note of here. It's a pretty serious take on the vintage with a strong architecture of cassis fruits, pencil lead and slate, more 2016 than 2015 in style. It should age well. Good value. Harvested 24 September to 16 October. Ageing is in 33% new oak. Drinking Window 2024 – 2038”
 92 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Château Cantelaude-Borie 2018
Moulis-en-Médoc



£72 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2030
 Arriving Spring 2021

Bruno Borie is the proprietor of one of the best performing properties over the last few years, Château Ducru-Beaucaillou. As those familiar with the striking orange label of the aforementioned 2nd growth will immediately spot, this is from the same owner. A new project from M. Borie, Based in Moulis, just south of Margaux, this new venture was tasted among the very finest that Moulis had to offer and quite frankly, such was the quality of this wine, we're not listing any other Moulis in this year's offer. It's considerably less expensive than the more familiar names from Moulis and in my view considerably better. Typically for a wine from the Ducru-Beaucaillou stable, this is vibrant, full of red fruit and incredibly polished. It's ripe, elegant, and the tannins are wonderfully silky.

Château Belgrave 2018
Haut-Médoc
5^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£252 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2035+
 Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
92 Decanter

89-91 Robert Parker
89-91 Jeb Dunnuck

89-92 Wine Spectator
91-93 Wine Enthusiast

“The 2018 Château Belgrave is a hidden little gem that’s well worth seeking out. Darker fruits, roasted coffee, and earthy notes all emerge from this medium-bodied, juicy, focused Haut-Médoc that picks up more complex floral notes with time in the glass. It’s balanced, offers bright acidity and firm tannins, and will benefit from 2-4 years of bottle age.”
 89-91 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, April 2019

“Increasingly consistent and impressive wines are emerging from this property. This 2018 takes quite a while to unfurl, showing its seriousness and desire to age. It’s a violet-edged wine in the glass, less effortless and exuberant than some but with beautifully handled extraction. The flavours have persistency and grip, with touches of slate and pepper giving a real show of minerality and spice. 33% new oak. Drinking Window 2023 – 2038”
 92 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

Château La Tour Carnet 2018
Haut-Médoc
4^{ème} Grand Cru Classé



£252 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2032
 Arriving Spring 2021

92-93 James Suckling
90-92 Robert Parker
90-92 Jeb Dunnuck

93 Decanter
90-93 Wine Spectator

90-93 Antonio Galloni
92 Wine Enthusiast

“In the running for one of the best Haut-Médocs out there, the 2018 Château La Tour Carnet sports a deep purple color as well as an already complex bouquet of spicy red and black fruits, tobacco, new leather, and baking spices. Medium to full-bodied, concentrated, impeccably balanced, and with fine tannins that frame the finish beautifully, it’s going to be a smoking value to buy by the case.”
 90-92 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, April 2019

“The 2018 La Tour Carnet is fabulous. Bold, punchy and alluring in its beauty La Tour Carnet is wonderfully expressive, even in the early going. Cedar, tobacco, mint, dried flowers and licorice add layers of nuance to this deep, sumptuous Haut-Médoc from Bernard Magrez. The 2018 speaks with a dark, baritone voice that is undeniably alluring. But most importantly, the La Tour Carnet is shaping up to be one of best values in Bordeaux in 2018. I can’t think of too many other wines that offer this much quality for the money. In 2018, the blend is 60% Merlot, 37% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc. Tasted four times.”
 90-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

St-Emilion & Satellites

Château Teyssier 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£144 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2035
 Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Chris Kissack
89-92 Wine Spectator

91-93 Robert Parker

90-93 Jeb Dunnuck

“Teyssier is from the JCP Maltus portfolio of skillfully crafted Saint-Émilion wines. Neil White is the head winemaker and Thomas Duclos is a consultant here. The 2018 Teyssier is composed of 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc, picked September 20 to October 12, with a 3.53 pH and 14.8% alcohol. Deep purple-black colored, it leaps from the glass with bold, vibrant scents of crushed black and red cherries, mulberries and black raspberries with touches of fallen leaves, roses and blackcurrants. Medium to full-bodied, the palate exudes energetic freshness, with soft, plush tannins blanketing the juicy fruit, finishing with a skip in its step.”

91-93 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“Jonathan Maltus has begun working with the increasingly popular Thomas Duclos for Château Teyssier, and either this, or the generosity of the vintage, has resulted in potentially one of the best wines from this estate ever. The harvest was from September 20th until October 4th for the Merlot, and the Cabernet Franc was picked between October 8th and the 12th. The alcohol is 14.8%, the pH 3.53. It has a lovely nose, expressive, pure, bright and open, with perfumed red plums and a chalky freshness giving it a sense of purity and lift. A serious, broad and textural palate, rich and filled with spiced plum fruit, with a peppery energy through the middle. There is plenty of grip, velvety and tightly grained, and bright acidity as well. Substantial, broad, convincing, with a chalky perfume, this is indeed potentially one of the best vintages yet for Teyssier. The élevage will be in 25% new oak.”

92-94 Pts Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor April 2019

Château Puy-Blanquet 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£165 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2032
 Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Jeb Dunnuck
88-90 Robert Parker
16.5 Jancis Robinson

92-93 James Suckling
90 Decanter

90-93 Antonio Galloni
88-91 Wine Spectator

“Deeply colored, the 2018 Château Puy-Blanquet checks in as 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon from a 20-hectare parcel of clay and limestone soils. Beautifully ripe and se*y, with a massive bouquet of blackcurrants, macerated black cherries, and smoked earth, it’s full-bodied, opulent, and layered on the palate, with serious fruit. This brilliant wine will be approachable in its youth yet also evolve gracefully for 15 years or more. It should also be an incredible value.”

92-94 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

“85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon on clay-limestone. Barrel sample. This was the first wine I tasted in the Moueix range. Deepest crimson. Ripe, tangy and sweet like fresh mulberries on the nose. Rich, velvety texture, so smooth and caressing. Deep-fruited and generous, with a bite of freshness to keep it in shape. Could well be relatively Good Value.”

16.5 Pts Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com April 2019

Château Laroque 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£210 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2040
 Arriving Spring 2021

95-97 Robert Parker
93 Decanter

95-97 Jeb Dunnuck
92-95 Wine Spectator

93-94 James Suckling
91-94 Antonio Galloni

"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Laroque is a little closed to begin, slowly unfurling to reveal fragrant black cherries, wild blueberries and blackberry preserves scents with hints of crushed rocks, underbrush and violets plus a waft of Marmite toast. Full-bodied and jam-packed with bright, crunchy black and blue fruits, it has a firm line of ripe, fine-grained tannins and loads of freshness, finishing very long and layered. Impressive! Being aged in oak barriques, 50% new, the blend is 97% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc."

95-97 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"A blend of 97% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc representing just 41% of the total production, the 2018 Château Laroque is still resting in barrels and oak tanks. Its deep purple color is followed by a classy bouquet of ripe black cherries, cassia, graphite, licorice, and crushed rocks. Deep, medium to full-bodied, with a beautiful mid-palate and ripe, silky tannins, it's an incredible success for the estate, which is firing on all cylinders today thanks to the talented David Suire!"

95-97 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Château Tour Saint Christophe
2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£268 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2035
 Arriving Spring 2021

96-97 James Suckling

93-95+ Jeb Dunnuck

91-94 Antonio Galloni

"This tiny, picturesque vineyard on the east side of Saint-Émilion has turned out another brilliant wine with their 2018 Château Tour Saint Christophe. The vineyard covers 6.5 hectares of terraced slopes sitting just across from Château Barde-Haut and consists of old vine Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The 2018 is a tentative blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, harvested from September 25 through October 15, that hit 14.6% alcohol and is aging in 40% new French oak, with the balance in second- and third-fill barrels. Its deep purple color is followed by a medium to full-bodied, ripe, brilliantly concentrated Saint-Émilion that has terrific purity of fruit, classic minerality and graphite characteristics, good acidity, and building tannins. In short, it's a classic wine from this cooler terroir that's going to benefit from short-term cellaring and cruise for two decades. It well worth a multiple case purchase!"

93-95+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"Blueberry and blackberry character with hints of white pepper and chalk. Salty, too. Full-bodied, tight and polished with fantastic texture and length. Very closed and tight with gorgeous tannin quality."

96-97 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Château Sansonnet 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£290 per 12 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96+ Jeb Dunnuck
92-95 Antonio Galloni

95-96 James Suckling
92-94 Robert Parker

91 Decanter

“Another estate that I suspect has produced a best to date, the 2018 Château Sansonnet comes from a tiny 7-hectare vineyard which was purchased by Marie and Christophe Lefèvre early in 2009. The vineyard itself is 35 years old and consists of a thin layer of clay sitting over the limestone plateau of Saint-Émilion. The 2018 is a blend of 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 3% Cabernet Franc, representing 65% of the total production, that saw malolactic fermentation in barrel and is still resting in 80% new French oak. This is another rich, powerful wine from Marie and offers a thrilling bouquet of crème de cassis, crushed rock-like minerality, graphite, and liquid violets. Deep, full-bodied, and concentrated, it nevertheless stays elegant and graceful, and just glides over the palate with nothing out of place. Count me in as a fan of this rich, se^ey wine that also shows terrific balance and a sense of grace. It will be drinkable with just short-term cellaring and keep for 25 years or more.”
94-96+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

“The 2018 Sansonnet is gorgeous. Vibrant, delineated and full of character, the 2018 has so much to offer. In 2018, Sansonnet is a bit restrained and yet it possesses terrific depth and energy in its black cherry, chocolate, licorice and menthol flavors. Always a rich wine, in 2018 Sansonnet has a good bit of freshness and that plays off its more overt leanings very nicely. The 2018 feels just a bit less extracted than some previous editions, and that is a good thing. Not to worry, though, there is plenty of richness and concentration. Sansonnet got better and better as my en primeur tastings progressed. The last of the four samples I tasted was the most impressive.”
92-95 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Grand-Mayne 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£345 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

91-93+ Robert Parker
93-95 Wine Enthusiast

16 Jancis Robinson

89-92 Antonio Galloni

“93–95. Barrel Sample. Already a stylish wine, this wine is rich in smoky tannins as well as ripe black fruit. Its acidity shows the freshness of ripe Merlot from this vintage, but overall the structure and concentration are well in place.”
93-95 Pts Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast April 2019

“The 2018 Grand Mayne is creamy, resonant and beautifully layered. Black cherry, chocolate, sweet spice, licorice and new leather build in a deep, sumptuous Saint-Émilion loaded with character. This is very nicely done.”
89-92 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Château Berliquet 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£395 per 12 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

93-95+ Robert Parker
94-95 James Suckling

90-93 Antonio Galloni
93-96 Jeb Dunnuck

93 Decanter
91-94 Wine Spectator

The 2018 Berliquet represents a major stylistic shift under the guidance of Nicolas Audebert and the technical team at Canon. Plump and juicy, the 2018 offers an explosion of fruit that gives it a distinctly exuberant personality. A joyous, radiant wine, Berliquet expresses the natural radiance of the vintage in a forward, juicy style that offers tons of near and medium-term appeal. The wine's fruit and overall density are both impressive, to say the least. This is the first vintage made by the Nicolas Audebert and the technical team at Canon following Chanel's acquisition of the estate in 2017. The blend is 78% Merlot and 22% Cabernet Franc. Tasted four times."

90-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"This was really Nicolas Audebert's first vintage at Berliquet, since the property was acquired by Chanel in the autumn of 2017. The most significant, immediate change from 2018 came from noticing that blocks of the vineyard had Merlot and Cabernet Franc interplanted. These used to be harvested together. This year the different cultivars were flagged and harvested separately so as to achieve optimal ripeness for both varieties. The 2018 Berliquet is blended of 78% Merlot and 22% Cabernet Franc and has 14.5% alcohol. Deep purple-black in color, it leaps from the glass with bold kirsch, blueberry compote and Black Forest cake with touches of cloves, lavender, menthol and lilacs. Medium to full-bodied and elegant, with lovely freshness lifting the densely packed blue and black fruit flavors, it has a velvety texture and long, earthy finish."

93-95+ Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Château Bellefont-Belcier 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£432 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

95-96 James Suckling

90-93 Antonio Galloni

"The 2018 Bellefont-Belcier is dark, powerful and quite brooding, but also noticeably less extracted than in the past. Succulent dark cherry, plum, violet, lavender, graphite and spice all infuse this savory, virile Saint-Émilion. All of the signatures are in place, but delivered with more nuance than was once the case. Consulting winemaker Thomas Duclos has ushered in quite a change at the property in his first vintage here. Tasted three times."

90-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"Intense aromas and flavors of blue fruit and violets. Hints of green tea and black olives. Changes all the time. Medium-to full-bodied with polished and very silky tannins. Love the center palate. The finish lasts for minutes. This year, about one-third cabernet franc gives an edge to the merlot and the touch of cabernet sauvignon."

95-96 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Château Larcis-Ducasse 2018
St-Emilion Premier Grand Cru
Classé



£297 per 6 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

97-98 James Suckling
94-97 Antonio Galloni

96-98 Robert Parker
94-97 Wine Spectator

95-97+ Jeb Dunnuck
95 Decanter

"A wine of total sophistication and class, Larcis Ducasse is fabulous in 2018. Freshly cut flowers, bright red fruit, espresso, licorice and wild flowers are all vibrant in the glass. The 2018 marries fruit intensity, energy and structure like few wines in this vintage. The 2018 is deceptive in its mid-weight structure, but it packs a real punch. There is an element of precision in Larcis that is truly remarkable. Even with all of its intensity, Larcis retains its characteristic linear feel and drive. I loved it. Tasted three times."

94-97 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

"Incorporating 11% Cabernet Franc, the Merlot-dominated 2018 Château Larcis Ducasse come from an 11.5-hectare parcel of clay and limestone soils, on the south facing hillside just outside of Saint-Émilion, and there are only 2,400 cases made, which equates to 72% of the total production. This deeply colored beauty offers a thrilling blue fruit quality as well as complex violets, graphite, and a liquid rock-like minerality. It's deep and thrillingly pure, with fine tannins and a beautiful finish. This is an incredible terroir, and the estate has been firing on all cylinders thanks to the talents of Nicolas Thienpont and David Suire. Give bottles 4-5 years (if you can) and it will keep for 30-40 years if you're so inclined."

95-97+ Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com April 2019

Château Pavie-Macquin 2018
St-Emilion
1er Grand Cru Classé



£316 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040+
Arriving Spring 2021

97-99 Jeb Dunnuck
95-97+ Robert Parker

97-98 James Suckling
98 Decanter

95-98 Wine Spectator
92-95 Antonio Galloni

"From a cooler, pure limestone terroir just over the hill from Château Pavie, the 2018 Château Pavie Macquin offers an incredible assortment of red and black fruits, cedary spice, white truffle, graphite, and beautiful minerality. Showing the cooler, complex, concentrated style of the vineyard, it's full-bodied and powerful on the palate, with no shortage of extract or tannins. The wine always has a healthy pH and needs bottle age to show at its best. A solid 7-8 years are warranted here, and it will keep for 2-3 decades. The 2018 is 78% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, representing 90% of the total production. I think this estate has been underrated in the market and it can still be found for reasonable prices. It ages beautifully and I doubt you could have too much in the cellar."

97-99 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"This is just so good. Not overly big, it has nuance, sapidity and grace, with space between the lines. It's not sacrificing its concentration but it gives you a chance to get onboard and accompany it along the way. I love the quality of the brambled blackberry and loganberry fruit here, and the touch of austerity that gives a welcome note of bitter chocolate to the finish. It has great tannic grip and there's no question that this will age well, but it's also extremely drinkable now. Tasted several times, and each occasion blew me away. My favourite vintage to date from this property. 47hl/ha yields, as in 2016. Drinking Window 2027 – 2042"

98 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Le Carré 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£324 per 6 IB
Drink to 2032
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96 Chris Kissack
93-94 James Suckling

93-95+ Robert Parker
89-92 Wine Spectator

94-96 Jeb Dunnuck

“Le Carre is from the JCP Maltus portfolio of skillfully crafted Saint-Émilion wines. Neil White is the head winemaker, and Thomas Duclos is a consultant here. The 2018 Le Carre is a blend of 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc—this vineyard land was purchased from Canon around 2000 and touches Clos Fourtet. Deep purple-black in color, it comes bursting out of the glass with flamboyant black cherry compote, blueberry pie and plum preserves notes with touches of Chinese five spice, underbrush and truffles. Full-bodied, concentrated and framed by firm, ripe, rounded tannins, the exotic spices inject wonderful lift to the long, opulent finish.”

93-95+ Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“In this vintage this is a blend of 85% Merlot, picked on September 26th, and 15% Cabernet Franc, picked October 12th, with an alcohol of 14.7% and a pH of 3.23. This is a real step up from the 2018 Château Laforge, tasted alongside, showing a more direct, confident and defined nose, filled with fabulous black fruits, blackcurrants, damsons, salted black olives and chalk dust, in a very concentrated but fresh style. It has a very polished texture on the palate, where there is a firm frame of grippy tannin, with a spicy and peppery style, the palate filled out with toasted black fruits. The tannins build in the middle, tight and fresh, with a rich, polished and velvety confidence. Very substantial and complete in its style, with a fresh and bright finish. A very impressive, energetic and acid-fresh Carré in this vintage. The élevage will be in 80% new oak.”

94-96 Pts Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor April 2019

Vieux Château Mazerat 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£426 per 6 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

97-99 Chris Kissack
92-93 James Suckling

95-97 Robert Parker
89-92 Wine Spectator

95-97 Jeb Dunnuck

“Vieux Château Mazerat is from the JCP Maltus portfolio of skillfully crafted Saint-Émilion wines. Neil White is the head winemaker, and Thomas Duclos is a consultant here. This vineyard is bordered by Château Canon on three sides and by Angéus on the fourth side. It includes a parcel of Cabernet Franc that was planted in 1947 on clay over limestone. A blend of 65% Merlot and 35% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Vieux Château Mazerat sashays out of the glass with beautiful notions of red roses, black raspberries, plum preserves and star anise with gentle, underlying wafts of redcurrant jelly, chocolate-covered cherries, menthol and espresso. Full-bodied, the palate delivers a rock-solid foundation of firm, grainy tannins and lovely freshness supporting the concentrated red and black fruit layers, finishing long and perfumed.”

95-97 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

“We have the usual blend here, 65% Merlot, picked on October 1st, and 35% Cabernet Franc, picked October 10th, with an alcohol of 14.7% and a pH of 3.76. It has a rich, polished, darkly spiced nose, with twists of oak and cinnamon wrapped around the fruit, which is all grilled red cherry, the Cabernet Franc coming in here, with black bean and black olive, certainly capturing the spirit of the vintage. A fine, fresh, rich yet elegantly textured palate, redolent of plum cream, perfumed wild raspberries, with violets and rose petal notes to the fruit, as well as coffee bean, oaky spice and cinnamon, all underpinned by a rich but barely noticeable bed of tannin, along with a fresh and energetic acid lift. It is broad and bold, but with vivacity as well as breadth and substance. A truly impressive grand vin, beautiful, dark and brooding, loaded with texture, grip, energy and a polished substance. Magnificently spiced and energetic on the finish. A brilliant showing, on both of the occasions I tasted it. The élevage will be in 80% new oak.”

97-99 Pts Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor April 2019

Carillon d'Angélus 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£474 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2030+
 Arriving Spring 2021

94-95 James Suckling
90-93 Wine Spectator

91-94 Antonio Galloni

91-93 Jeb Dunnuck

"This is a really together second wine of Angélus with a tight and focused center palate of blackberries and hints of chocolate and hazelnuts. Firm and very fine tannins and a long and persistent finish."
 94-95 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The 2018 Le Carillon d'Angélus is laced with striking floral/savory aromatics and brisk saline notes that complement a core of bright red-toned fruit. Pliant and supple, with notable purity and class, the 2018 is gorgeous today and benefits from an extra touch of Franc that did not go into the Grand Vin. Carillon is a blend of fruit from three sources: 7 hectares around the château, 5 hectares closer to Cheval Blanc and 3 hectares in the Saint Christophe des Bardes sector. It is especially fine in 2018 and could very well turn out to be an overachiever."
 91-94 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Les Astéries 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£486 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2035
 Arriving Spring 2021

96-98 Chris Kissack
93-94 James Suckling

94-96 Robert Parker
92-95 Antonio Galloni

95-97 Jeb Dunnuck
90-93 Wine Spectator

"Les Asteries is from the JCP Maltus portfolio of skillfully crafted Saint-Émilion wines. Neil White is the head winemaker, and Thomas Duclos is a consultant here. The vineyard is composed of thin clay over limestone. The 2018 Les Asteries is a blend of 83% Merlot and 17% Cabernet Franc and has a 3.65 pH. Deep purple-black in color, it is a little shy to begin, opening out to give fragrant rose hip tea, violets, forest floor and cigar box notions over a core of wild blueberries, kirsch and warm plums plus a waft of cinnamon stick. Medium to full-bodied, the palate has lovely freshness contracting the generous red and black fruits, supported by velvety tannins, finishing long and with loads of mineral sparks coming through."
 94-96 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"This is a blend of 83% Merlot, picked on October 1st, and 17% Cabernet Franc, picked October 12th, with an alcohol of 14.9% and a pH of 3.65. A much more serious style compared to the other Maltus cuvées, including the other single-vineyard wines. The style is rich and brimming with tightly defined fruit, framed by notes of fresh, bright and mineral limestone, crushed rocks and rose petals. This feels immediately complete on the palate, elegant with perfumed roses and peonies, along with grilled blackcurrant, macerated cherry and liquorice, but it is that chalky mineral edge and of course the structure that defines the wine. The mineral component comes through loud and clear here, the texture fresh with polished and velvety tannins, and the acidity feels balanced too. This is a superb vintage for Astéries. The élevage will be in 80% new oak."
 96-98 Pts Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor April 2019

Château Pavie-Decesse 2018
St-Emilion
1er Grand Cru Classé



£544 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

97-100 Jeb Dunnuck
97-98 James Suckling

96-98 Robert Parker
95-98 Wine Spectator

92-95 Antonio Galloni
94 Decanter

"Grapes for this wine come from the plateau and were harvested October 3 with yields of 32 hectoliters per hectare. Composed of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc with a pH of 3.57 and 14.52% alcohol, the 2018 Pavie Decesse is deep purple-black in color and strides confidently out of the glass with a very serious nose of crushed blackberries, warm black plums, mulberries and cassis plus touches of camphor, lavender, black olives and crushed rocks with a waft of woodsmoke. Full-bodied and laden with taut, muscular black fruit and loads of mineral accents, it has a firm structure of super ripe, finely grained tannins and amazing freshness, finishing very long and very layered."

96-98 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"All from the upper plateau and incredible limestone soils, the 2018 Château Pavie Decesse is a crazy good wine that's going to flirt with perfection. Black raspberries, cassis, crushed stone, exotic flowers, and an incredible salinity all give way to a full-bodied, concentrated yet elegant wine that just glides over the palate. Made from 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, it's going to require 4-6 years of bottle age, but it's one of the great wines of the vintage."

97-100 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

Le Dôme 2018
St-Emilion Grand Cru



£744 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040
Arriving Spring 2021

98-100 Chris Kissack
93-94 James Suckling
90-93 Wine Spectator

97-99 Robert Parker
93-96 Antonio Galloni

95-98 Jeb Dunnuck
96 Wine Enthusiast

"Le Dome is from the JCP Maltus portfolio of skillfully crafted Saint-Émilion wines. Neil White is the head winemaker and Thomas Duclos is a consultant here. The 2018 Le Dome is composed of 80% Cabernet Franc and 20% Merlot, with a 3.82 pH and 14.3% alcohol. Deep garnet-purple colored, it is a little coy in the beginning, requiring considerable coaxing to allow fragrant earth, rose hip tea, preserved plums and raspberry pie notions to emerge, giving way to notes of pencil shavings, woodsmoke and camphor. Full-bodied, firm and finely grained, the profound palate is sparked by energetic mineral and red fruit notes, framed by firm, fine-grained tannins and just enough acidity to lift the very long, very fragrant finish."

97-99 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

"As always this is a blend of 80% Cabernet Franc and 20% Merlot, in this vintage the former picked on October 11th, the latter picked on October 1st. The alcohol is 14.3%, the pH 3.82. As usual, this stands out as a completely different style within the Maltus portfolio, the nose dark with spiced pencil shavings, as well as a little touch of green peppercorn, with rose petal nuances with heady hedgerow fruits, blackberries and hawthorn. But it is that polished, pencil shaving, rose petal and cocoa bean character that really defines the nose, very expressive and confident. The palate is dark, but fresh and open, highly polished, with a little wrapping of praline, toast and coffee bean around the perfumed fruit. It shows a quite distinct tannic structure compared to the Merlot-dominated cuvées, pure and defined, the backbone of the wine perfectly ripe. Alongside it has a lightly chalky, finely grained, taut and bright poise, yet it maintains a sense of polish and substance. This is potentially brilliant. What I like most about this is that while it transmits the success of the vintage, through its substance and ripe grip, it retains the perfume of Cabernet Franc, which of course dominates the blend. This is of course essential for a keen Cabernet Franc fan. As for the length this goes on and on, and is riven with ripe Cabernet tannins, with perfumed chalk and slowly fading scents of rose petals. Cool yet rich, broad yet polished, seductive yet vigorous, every mouthful feels different. Great potential here. The élevage will be in 80% new oak. Tasted twice."

98-100 Pts Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor April 2019

Château Valandraud 2018
St Emilion Grand Cru Classé



£770 per 6 IB
 Drink to 2038+
 Arriving Spring 2021

97-98 James Suckling
96-98 Jeb Dunnuck

94-97 Antonio Galloni
96-99 Wine Spectator

95-97+ Robert Parker
96 Decanter

"This is richly fruited, with waves of fleshy raspberry, boysenberry and red currant cruising through, inlaid with singed vanilla and apple wood notes along the way. Shows density and cut through the finish, with a tug of tobacco at the end. This is dialed up to 11"
 96-99 Pts James Molesworth, WineSpectator.com March 2019

"The 2018 Valandraud is magnificent. Unctuous and super-concentrated on the palate, the 2018 possesses off the charts richness. Crème de cassis, bittersweet chocolate, hard candy, lavender, menthol, licorice, mint and dark spice all meld together. The 2018 is quite shut down at this stage, which is probably a good thing for its long term prospects. The blend is 90% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Malbec. This is the first time since the early 1990s that Malbec has appeared in the blend. Yields came in at 48 hectoliters per hectare, a touch above the 45 or so that is more customary here."
 94-97 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Pomerol & Lalande de Pomerol

Château Chantalouette 2018
Pomerol



£205 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2026
 Arriving Spring 2021

This little-known 'Second Wine' of Château de Sales always flies under the radars of the major critics, despite being part of the Moueix stable alongside the likes of Château Pétrus. A richly fruited style with the ability to age for a decade, it is one of our customer favourites year-on-year. Very approachable when young, this will nevertheless stand up well to a decade in the cellar.

Château Tour Maillet 2018
Pomerol



£250 per 12 IB
 Drink to 2028
 Arriving Spring 2021

94-95 James Suckling

91-93 Jeb Dunnuck

89-92 Antonio Galloni

"Deeply colored, the 2018 Château Tour Maillet (Lagardère) is a ripe, fleshy, yet beautiful Pomerol that has classic blue fruits, smoked tobacco, and earthy aromas and flavors. With medium to full-bodied richness, gorgeous tannins, and both the sex appeal and purity of this terrific vintage, it's going to be drinkable with just short-term cellaring and last for 15 years or more."
 91-93 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

"Blueberry and blackberry character with smoky tobacco, make this so serious and solid. Full body. Chewy finish. Structured wine."
 94-95 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

**Château Bourgneuf 2018
Pomerol**



£450 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035+
Arriving Spring 2021

92-94 Robert Parker
93-96 Wine Spectator
16+ Jancis Robinson

93-94 James Suckling
93 Decanter

92-94+ Jeb Dunnuck
89-92 Antonio Galloni

“The deliciously ripe and juicy red currant, plum and raspberry fruit is well-knit, revealing hints of tobacco, singed chestnut and cast iron in the background. Shows lots of range and drive, with serious grip on the finish.”
93-96 Pts James Molesworth, Wine Spectator, March 2019

“This is a lovely wine, packed full of Pomerol typicity – it’s inky with dark chocolate, black cherry coulis and touches of smoke that spread through the palate. The tannins are chewy but full of life, they grab on and massage the dark, cassis, knitted-down fruits along the way. Drinking Window 2026 - 2040”
93 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

**Château Clinet 2018
Pomerol**



£385 per 6 IB
Drink to 2040+
Arriving Spring 2021

94-96 Robert Parker
95-96 James Suckling

96-99 Jeb Dunnuck
17.5+ Matthew Jukes

97 Decanter
91-94 Antonio Galloni

“The 2018 Château Clinet is 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon (which is more Cabernet than usual) that was brought up in slightly more new oak than normal, aging in 75% new and 25% once used French oak. Sporting a saturated purple color, it has a massive perfume of black and blue fruits, crushed violets, spice, and orange blossom. Full-bodied, deep, expansive, and layered on the palate, it’s an incredibly hedonistic and sexy wine that shows the best of this great vintage. It’s going to be hard to resist on release and knock your socks off over the following two decades or more.”
96-99 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com April 2019

“The 2018 Clinet is a powerful, explosive wine. Clinet is unusual for Pomerol in that the wine includes a good bit of Cabernet Sauvignon (15% in 2018). Gravel, smoke, licorice, grilled herbs, leather and menthol wrap around a core of plush, dark fruit. The Cabernet is very much felt in the wine’s flavor profile and textural weight. Dense, rich and inviting, Clinet is a winner from proprietor Ronan Laborde. Tasted three times.”
91-94 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

Other Right Bank Reds

**Château Puygueraud 2018
Francs Côtes de Bordeaux**



£110 per 12 IB
Drink to 2028
Arriving Spring 2021

92-93 James Suckling

90-93 Wine Spectator

90-92 Robert Parker

“A beautiful Puygueraud with blackberries, black olives and hints of salt. Medium to full body and firm tannins at the end. Shows tension and beauty.”
92-93 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Puygueraud features scents of warm blueberries, plum preserves and kirsch with touches of chocolate box and yeast extract. Full-bodied with a firm frame of ripe, grainy tannins, it has loads of freshness lifting the densely packed layers of black fruit and finishes with great length.”
90-92 Pts, Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Château Dalem 2018
Fronsac



£170 per 12 IB
Drink to 2030
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling
92-94+ Robert Parker

92 Decanter
89-91 Antonio Galloni

90-93 Wine Spectator
90-92 Jeb Dunnuck

“This is so energetic and vibrant with dark-berry and citrus undertones that lead the wine to a tight and linear finish. Medium body, pretty fruit and vivid structure.”

93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“Another successful Fronsac which is smooth and creamy through the mid palate with good fruits and rich roasted coffee bean notes alongside toasted oak, coffee and chocolate. It's definitely not taking its foot off the pedal in terms of extraction, but it is se*y and approachable and ready for pleasure, as the high alcohol helps wrap up the tannins.”

92 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

Dry Whites

Clos Floridène Blanc 2018
Graves



£154 per 12 IB
Drink to 2022
Arriving Spring 2021

90-93 Wine Spectator
87-89 Antonio Galloni

89-91 Robert Parker

91 Decanter

“This white delivers tangy fleur de sel, thyme, lemon and white asparagus notes, with good zing for the vintage.”

90-93 Pts James Molesworth, WineSpectator.com April 2019

“The Clos Floridene 2018 Blanc gives tropical scents of green guava, mango and pineapple with touches of honeysuckle and fresh ginger. Medium-bodied, the palate delivers fantastic freshness and mineral-tinged citrus layers, finishing long and clean.”

89-91 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Château La Garde Blanc 2018
Pessac-Léognan



£174 per 12 IB
Drink to 2025+
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling

90-93 Wine Spectator

91 Decanter

“This is a dense and rich white with layers of fruit and a hint of tannin. Solid tension to the wine. Full-bodied. Lots of green apples, grapefruit and papaya. Lovely hints of creaminess at the finish.”

93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

“There's no more Sauvignon Gris at La Garde, as they wanted to focus on a more mineral feel in the wine. Personally I liked the Sauvignon Gris, but I can definitely see that this is a beautifully sculpted and enjoyable white in 2018. It has clearly defined citrus and white flower aromatics, something that's not always the case in this vintage. White pear and citrus notes appear on the rich palate, with some gentle spice. Excellent. Harvested 29 August to 9 September. Drinking Window 2020 – 2027”

91 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com, April 2019

**Château La Tour Carnet
Blanc 2018
Bordeaux**



£138 per 6 IB
Drink to 2025
Arriving Spring 2021

90-92 Robert Parker

92-93 James Suckling

89-91 Antonio Galloni

"A dense and polished white with white-flower, peach and apple character. Medium to full body and a flavorful finish. Beautiful white, already."

92-93 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The la Tour Carnet 2018 Blanc leaps from the glass with bold lime cordial, lemongrass and green guava notes plus hints of honeysuckle and lanolin. Medium-bodied, the palate has lovely freshness and a satiny texture, finishing spicy."

90-92 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

**Château Talbot 'Caillou Blanc'
2018
Bordeaux**



£141 per 6 IB
Drink to 2023
Arriving Spring 2021

91 Decanter

89-91 Robert Parker

89-90 James Suckling

"This white from Talbot shows clear varietal character, which is not always the case in 2018. Full of flavour, it's rich in stone fruits and enjoyable without quite the lift and concentration of 2017. Drinking Window 2020 - 2026."

91 Pts Jane Anson, Decanter.com April 2019

"The 2018 Caillou Blanc de Talbot comes bounding out of the glass with bold, tropical scents of fresh pineapples and passion fruit plus hints of lemongrass and ginger. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is ripe and seductive with just enough freshness and a long, tropical finish."

89-91 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

**Château Malartic-Lagravière
Blanc 2018 Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé**



£230 per 6 IB
Drink to 2028
Arriving Spring 2021

**95-96 James Suckling
92-94 Jeb Dunnuck
15.5 Jancis Robinson**

**91-93 Antonio Galloni
90-93 Wine Spectator
92 Decanter**

**91-93 Robert Parker
95-97 Wine Enthusiast**

"A very dense and powerful young white with sliced-apple, pear and aniseed character and an undertone of fennel. Full-bodied. Salty and tangy. Great wine."

95-96 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"One of the few compelling whites of the vintage, the 2018 Malartic-Lagravière Blanc offers an intriguing combination of energy and textural depth. Green apple, pear, crushed rocks, citrus and floral notes build in an expressive white that has so much to offer. In 2018, the Blanc is 90% Sauvignon Blanc and 10% Sémillon."

91-93 Pts Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com April 2019

**Domaine de Chevalier Blanc
2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé**



£430 per 6 IB
Drink to 2030
Arriving Spring 2021

**97-98 James Suckling
94 Decanter
90-93 Antonio Galloni**

**95-97 Jeb Dunnuck
94-96 Wine Enthusiast
17.5+ Matthew Jukes**

**93-96 Wine Spectator
93-95 Robert Parker
17.5 Jancis Robinson**

"This is dense and very structured with phenolic tension and depth. Full-bodied, lightly phenolic with sliced apples, cooked pears and lemons. Lively and intense. Solid as a rock. This is one to watch".
97-98 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"One of the whites of the vintage is the 2018 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc, which is both powerful and fresh in the vintage. Crushed citrus, tart melon, lemon curd, and crushed rock-like minerality all give way to a pure, full-bodied dry white that has integrated acidity and a great, great finish. A blend of 75% Sauvignon Blanc and 25% Sémillon that will spend 18 months in 35% new French oak, it's going to be relatively accessible in its youth (unlike the 2015) yet should age beautifully."
95-97 Pts Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com May 2019

**Château Pape-Clément Blanc
2018
Pessac-Léognan
Grand Cru Classé**



£592 per 6 IB
Drink to 2028
Arriving Spring 2021
Very Limited Availability

**98-99 James Suckling
94-96 Robert Parker**

**94-96 Jeb Dunnuck
90-93 Antonio Galloni**

91 Decanter

"This is a cylinder of dense fruit and phenolic intensity, yet it remains agile and vivid with cooked-apple, honey and cream character, compounding the fantastic texture and structure. A great white with the same gravitas as a red."
98-99 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

"The Pape Clement 2018 Blanc slips languidly from the glass with tropical notes of warm pineapples, fresh mango and green guava plus hints of nutmeg, orange blossoms, lanolin and crushed rocks. Full-bodied, rich and seductive, it is absolutely laden with tropical fruit and spice layers, with a racy line to support and long, opulent finish. The blend is 57% Sauvignon Blanc, 39% Sémillon and 4% Muscadelle. Anticipated aging regimen is 14 months in 55% new and 45% second-fill French oak barrels."
94-96 Pts Lisa Perrotti-Brown, RobertParker.com April 2019

Sauternes & Barsac

**Château Doisy-Daëne
(37.5cl) 2018
Barsac 2ème Cru Classé**



£146 per 12 IB
Drink to 2035
Arriving Spring 2021

93-94 James Suckling

"Serious density and spiciness with a full body, lovely sweetness and a flavorful, spicy finish. Lovely botrytis."
93-94 Pts James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com April 2019

Mixed Cases

Bordeaux 2018 Value Mix

2x Château Gigault 'Cuvée Viva'
2x Château Lanessan
2x Château Capbern
2x Puygueraud
2x Joanin-Bécot
2x Château Dalem



£150 per 12 IB
Arriving Spring 2021

Bordeaux 2018 Highlights Mix

2x Château Lynch-Moussas
2x Château Labégorce
2x Marquis de Calon
2x Château Haut-Brisson
2x Château Lalande-Borie
2x Château Tour Maillet



£260 per 12 IB
Arriving Spring 2021

Bordeaux 2018 Premium Mix

1x Château Langoa-Barton
1x Château d'Armailhac
1x Château Beau-Séjour-Bécot
1x Château Malescot-St-Exupéry
1x Château Pape-Clément
1x Château Bourgneuf



£270 per 6 IB
Arriving Spring 2021

Bordeaux 2018 Sweet Mix

4x Château Doisy-Védrines
4x Château Doisy-Daëne
4x Château Coutet



£160 per 12 Halves IB
Arriving Spring 2021



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- Our En Primeur prices are the 'in bond' cost. The first instalment covers the cost of the wine itself, and when the wine is ready, you can decide whether to keep the wine in bond, or pay the Duty and VAT on the first instalment and receive the wine or store it Duty Paid.
- No discount or vouchers shall apply to En Primeur wines.
- When we place your order we will send you a reservation certificate to the address provided by you. You will not receive any wine at this time. Although should you be a Premiere or Charter Plus member and order 12 or more bottles, we will send you your usual complimentary bottle(s).
- Wines ordered through our En Primeur service can only be cancelled within 14 days of placing the order. A full refund of any payment made up to this point will be given on receipt of written notification of the cancellation of the order. Due to the nature of the En Primeur sales we regret that orders cannot be cancelled after this time.
- When the wine arrives with us in the UK, we will send you the final invoice. This invoice will include the delivery cost to a UK address, duty (currently £2.23 per 0.75l bottle excl VAT), plus the VAT applicable on the day of the final invoice (currently 20%). Upon payment of the appropriate amount we will action your despatch instructions.
- If you do not contact us with instructions within 6 weeks of your wines being ready, we will place the wines into bonded storage on your behalf and at your cost. For further details please refer to our full Ts & Cs.
- All wines and spirits or other goods ordered remain the property of Laithwaite's Wine until appropriate payment is received in full.
- We can store your wine (both 'duty paid' or 'in bond') in ideal, long-term cellar conditions. Please contact us for further details.
- It is your responsibility to keep us informed of any changes of address in order to maintain any reservations you may have with us.
- All wines are insured by us at the original invoice value until your delivery and/or storage instructions have been completed.
- All goods are offered subject to availability. If the wines you have selected are unavailable we will contact you to advise you of this. If the producer fails to supply us with the wine we will contact you with available alternatives or offer a refund of monies paid.
- Force Majeure – Direct Wines Ltd/Laithwaite's Wine will not be liable for failure to meet agreed obligations due to prevailing circumstances including but not limited to any act of God, war, strike, lock-out, industrial accident or other event beyond its reasonable control.
- All disputes arising out of this contract shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.
- For our full terms and conditions, including those relating to our 100% guarantee, non-delivery and cancellations, please go to www.laithwaites.co.uk/terms.

23.05.19