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CLUB
PONTET
LABRIE

*An exclusive wine
A unique club*

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CLUB PONTET LABRIE

A unique opportunity combining access to allocations of a highly limited top-scoring Bordeaux, with the lifestyle and concierge benefits of a member's club. In brief it revolves around four key elements.

1. Envy-Inducing Cellar Addition

2. The Events & Network

3. Investing in Pleasure

4. Access to Fine Wine

[Discover more here](#)

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THE WINE

Pontet Labrie is a single vineyard Grand Cru Saint Emilion, owned by one of the original Bordeaux 'garagistes', 100-point winemaker Jonathan Maltus OBE. Jonathan has evolved his winemaking philosophy pioneering a Burgundian approach, unusual in Bordeaux, focussing on small production, single site cuvées (rather than blending his various blocks, like everyone else). In 2014 he approached Honest Grapes as he owned a single 1-ha of vines on a prime site of the prestigious plateau of Saint Emilion, with vines pre-dating the frost of 1957, which he believed had the potential to be the Merlot-based equivalent to his famous Le Dôme.

The six vintages produced have attracted excellent 95+/96+ point reviews and, given the exceptionally limited production, are immediately collector's items, even featuring in the Robb Report's "Hard To Get" feature on the world's most elusive bottles. Pontet Labrie has been produced across the greatest six vintage run in Bordeaux' history – 2015-2020, every year a winner and showing the individual character one would expect from a single vineyard wine. In August 2022 Prince Robert of Luxembourg's Domaine Clarence Dillon (owner of First Growth Haut Brion and La Mission Haut Brion) bought the other 14ha of the vineyard from the owner, convinced of the quality of the terroir. This only helps to enhance the allure of Pontet Labrie.

The vineyard produces a maximum 300 cases of this exceptional Merlot/Cabernet Franc and allocations are available exclusively through Honest Grapes as part of a multi-year club membership, which comes with 12 or 24 bottles per annum, by invitation only. Only 150 wine lovers globally can access the club and there are currently members in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas

THE VINTAGES

We have been blessed with a string of superb wines since the inaugural 2015 vintage. The current five-year membership begins with the 95+ point rated 2016 - a powerful expression of Saint-Émilion at its most rich and hedonistic described by Jeb Dunnock as **"a killer wine... thrilling Saint Emilion"**. From a slightly lighter vintage the 2017 offers greater freshness and as Antonio Galloni points out **"it's gracious and silky... positively stellar"**. 2018 continues the run of form with Colin Hay calling it **"a wine of impeccable balance"** and Jeb Dunnock praising its **"tremendous richness as well as character"**. 2019 was another superb year, and Pontet Labrie **"has everything in the right place"** (Jeb Dunnock) and **"shows very fine potential"** (Chris Kissack). Completing the current quintet of vintages produced, 2020 **"has everything I look for in a great Bordeaux"** and is **"Simply gorgeous"** says Dunnock and is **"exquisitely soft and velvety"** according to Drinks Business.



M E M B E R S H I P

Club Pontet Labrie:

A unique opportunity combining access to allocations of a highly limited top-scoring Bordeaux, with the lifestyle and concierge benefits of a member's club. In brief it revolves around four key elements:

Envy-Inducing Cellar Addition

Allocations of a 96+ point rated Grand Cru Saint Emilion from one of Bordeaux' most famous winemakers, across the greatest six-vintage run in Bordeaux' history, that less than 150 wine lovers globally have access to (personalised large formats available).

The Events & Network

Access to a programme of great wine-based experiences, across Europe, with a fascinating bunch of successful fellow bon viveurs, including "at home" tastings in London and Bordeaux with the winemaker himself and other luxury partners.

Investing in Pleasure

The combination of Jonathan's single cru wines moving production into the new Norman Foster designed winery, the new luxury hospitality options at Chateau Teyssier and the increasing global demand for Jonathan's highly limited production wines, is likely to result in a positive upward market re-positioning of Pontet Labrie over the next five to seven years.

Access to Fine Wine

Priority access to allocations of our most sought-after fine wines (see a few examples below) and exclusive club member prices on specifically chosen wines.

B E N E F I T S

A complimentary visit at Le Dôme winery and comprehensive tasting of Jonathan Maltus's top cru wines, all by prior arrangement

"At Home" tastings at Jonathan's Chelsea home for members and guests
Invitations to our programme of exclusive events and trips with luxury partners, including Belmond Hotels (Italy), Holland & Holland, 67 Pall Mall, The (Latour) Club at Ten Trinity Square, and Hospices de Beaune/ Nuits

Option to buy further cases or formats of Pontet Labrie at special members' only rates

Top tier membership of our "Grand Crew Classé" - wine lifestyle concierge services and portfolio planning, including discounts to markets on specifically chosen cuvées and priority access to the cherished fine wines such as:

Premier Cru and other investable Bordeaux and special large format ex chateau releases.

Vaunted Burgundies from iconic domaines as well as shares in our Hospices de Beaune and Nuits Syndicate barrels.

Top Prestige Cuvée Champagne releases

High performing Italian classics from Piedmont and Tuscany, and Spanish gems, as well as the most collectable New World Icons.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

(please note cost is NOT per year but in total across the period AND includes the wine in bond):

New Member: Five Years – 2016-2020 (includes 12 bottles per vintage): £6,660 IB (magnums at no extra charge, other formats on request). Retail value = £7,320 IB

New Member: Five Years – 2016-2020 (includes 24 bottles per vintage): £13,320 IB (magnums at no extra charge, other formats on request). Retail value = £14,640 IB

Renewal/Limited: Three Years – 2018-2020 (includes 12 bottles per vintage): £3,960 IB (magnums at no extra charge, other formats on request). Retail value = £4,260 IB

Renewal/Limited: Three Years – 2018-2020 (includes 24 bottles per vintage): £7,920 IB (magnums at no extra charge, other formats on request). Retail value = £8,540 IB



2015

Hold onto your hats with this 2015 Château Pontet Labrie as it's an incredible Saint Emilion that does everything right! Based on 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc that was brought up in plenty of new oak, this rocking wine offers up a huge nose of sweet cassis, blueberries, graphite, and flowers, with just a touch of chocolatey oak showing in the background. Deep, full-bodied, incredibly sexy yet also incredibly elegant, it opens up beautifully with time in the glass and has a purity of fruit as well as balance that makes it almost irresistible today. Nevertheless, it's going to keep for two decades or more in cool cellars. Hat's off to Jonathan Maltus for this awesome first release.

96 points Jeb Dunnock, October 2018 (drink 2018-2038)

The maiden 2015 Le Pontet was hitherto blended into Laforge. "It is the only block on the côte that we didn't have as a single vineyard," Jonathan Maltus told me. "We had wanted to do it for a while." A blend of 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc, and matured in 80% new oak, it has a bright, well-defined bouquet with blackberry and bilberry fruit, demonstrating more precision than the 2015 Le Carré at this stage. The palate is medium-bodied with silky smooth tannin, very well-balanced with touches of blueberry and black cherry, fine delineation towards the finish that lingers long in the mouth. I think Maltus was correct: 2015 was the perfect way to introduce Le Pontet - this is splendid.

93-95 points Neal Martin, Wine Advocate, April 2016 (drink 2019-2035)



2016

The 2016 Château Pontet Labrie is also 80/20 Merlot and Cabernet Franc, aged in 80% new oak. It has more limestone character in its blackberry, black raspberry, graphite, and crushed rock-driven aromatics. Some lavender notes, full-bodied richness, building structure, and a great finish all make for a killer wine. As I wrote regarding the 2015, here's another hats off to Jonathan Maltus for another thrilling Saint-Emilion that's going to benefit from short-term cellaring and thrill for 15-20 years.

95+ points Jeb Dunnock, February 2019 (drink 2022-2042)

Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 Pontet Labrie sashays out of the glass with seductive preserved plums, Black Forest cake, boysenberry and black raspberry scents with underlying suggestions of violets, mocha, mincemeat pie and baking spices. Full-bodied, concentrated and built like a brick house, it has a firm, grainy tannic frame supporting the generous flesh, finishing long and spicy.

95 points Lisa Perotti-Brown, Wine Advocate, March 2019 (drink 2020-2043)

2017

85% Merlot; 15% Cabernet Franc; pH 3.65; 14.5% alcohol). Lighter in the glass – both in terms of hue and extract – than either Le Carré or Les Astéries – and less obviously glass-staining. This is also a little more evolved on the nose, with more pine, alder and cedar notes alongside the slightly Italianate sour cherries, griottes, blueberries, damsons and baked plums.



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There is also an earthy element to this, with a touch of baking spice and star anise too and, finally, tapenade, a hint of truffle and trompettes de mort. In short, it's quite complex – or, at least, difficult to describe simply (which is not quite the same thing)! On the palate, this is fleshy, grippy and nicely balanced, the fruit crunchy and fresh and the gentle sweet spiciness never dominates. This is a wine of impeccable balance and it's a little more accessible at this early stage than either Le Carré or Les Astéries. The gathered finish is beautifully composed and this is very long and finely balanced.

Colin Hay, Drinks Business, March 2021

Based on 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc all from the upper, limestone plateau of Saint-Emilion, the 2018 Château Pontet Labrie has a rich, chocolaty nose of ripe black fruits, tobacco, new leather, and graphite. A more backward, closed, yet certainly promising Saint-Emilion, it's full-bodied and has loads of chalky minerality, ripe yet integrated tannins, and a great finish. It needs a solid 4-5 years in the cellar yet should keep for 15+ years.

94+ Jeb Dunnock

Densely packed nose of spiced plums, currants and mocha, slowly unfurls to reveal red fruits (liquified raspberries), dried violets and cinnamon stick, framed by darker notes of earth, tobacco and tapenade and just faintly the whiff of a quarry at dawn. Large framed, but with a vibrant vein of spicy acidity ensuring tension, with succulent, opulent star anise-accented cherry fruit, and a touch of vanilla pod, bounded by rich dark chocolate tannins. The herbal Cabernet Franc punctuates the wine with a lip-smacking, savoury, saline finish. Precocious but prodigious!"

Tom Harrow (March 2021)

As always this is a blend predominantly Merlot, picked on October 1st, with the complementary Cabernet Franc picked on October 12th. The alcohol is 15%, the highest figure in the Maltus portfolio (only by 0.1% admittedly) with a pH of 3.65. The nose is filled with wonderfully perfumed and grilled blackcurrant and black bean fruits, with a touch of limestone dust, along with praline, tobacco and macerated cherry. A rich, bold, substantial and broad palate, with a very polished, creamed fruit substance running through the middle, and a peppery substance and energy. It is rich, with grilled blackcurrant, grilled damson and currant fruits through to the very end, all wrapped a svelte and tightly knit tannins. A high-alcohol model here, but one that is substantial and imposing in style. The élevage will be in 80% new oak.

94-96 points Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor

2019

Based on an 80/20 split of Merlot and Cabernet Franc from the upper limestone plateau, the 2019 Château Pontet Labrie offers a more reticent, tight, almost closed style that slowly gives up notes of savory darker cherries, mulberries, iron, crushed stone, and graphite. It's beautiful on the palate, with medium to full-bodied richness and ripe yet present tannins, yet this beauty deserves at least 4-5 years of bottle age and is going to evolve for upwards of two decades.

95+ points Jeb Dunnock, November 22 (drink 2026-2047)

The 2019 Pontet Labrie has really come together beautifully with *élevage*. Rich, powerful and explosive, the 2019 possesses tremendous depth and resonance from start to finish. Dark cherry, spice, new leather, licorice and scorched earth lend gorgeous complexity. En primeur, the richness of the Merlot drove the balance, but over time the Franc has caught up, resulting in a super-expressive Saint Émilion that captures the essence of Jonathan Maltus' style.

95 points Antonio Galloni January 2022 (drink 2026-2036)

Deep nose with impressive purity and focus but plenty of complexity. Initial aromas of raspberry jam, sandalwood and vanilla pod, give way to a fresher note of violets, and nice to see fresh red fruits – ripe strawberries nestled amongst the darker black cherries and berries. Whiffs of star anise, sourdough crust, cacao nibs, cumin and tapenade complete the intoxicating bouquet. Palate has good tension and intensity, broad and long penetrating salty tannins wrapping protectively around the dark, spiced red plum and blackberry core. Dryly rich, some graphite, cocoa powder and toast and nicely svelte, elegant fruit that persists well. This is a very different beast from 2018. I imagine this has a long life ahead but is pleasingly nimble and deft for another solar vintage.

Tom Harrow

A very limited production cuvée, from a small vineyard just behind the town, close to the stadium, on clay-limestone soils. The blend is 80% Merlot picked on October 3rd, and 20% Cabernet Franc picked on October 7th. The alcohol is 14.2%. A very focused nose, with elegantly smoked fruits, showing an impressive sense of dried concentration, the scents of red cherry laced with currant, black olive and black pepper. The Maltus portfolio shows a delightful sense of sinew and tension to the wines this year, and this is true here, but there is also a little of the trademark body and texture to this cuvée, although it works harmoniously with the rest of the palate. A rich but framed and focused style, with perfumed peony and rose-petal nuances to the fruit on the midpalate, with tightly knit tannins for backbone. Long, peppery, tightly grained, with great energy and grip, this has very fine potential.

94-96 pts, Chris Kissack

2020

I loved the 2020 Château Pontet Labrie, and it's a seriously good Saint-Emilion in the making. Offering full-bodied aromas and flavors of blue fruits (cassis, blueberries), violets, graphite, and ample rocky, mineral nuances, it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a good spine of acidity, flawless balance, and a great finish. It has everything I look for in a great Bordeaux with intensity, richness, freshness, and length. Gorgeous stuff.

94-96+ points Jeb Dunnock, May 2021

Pontet Labrie (St Emilion; made from a single parcel near Le Carré but, ironically, with a terroir much closer to Les Astéries [both, sadly, absent in this vintage due to the ravages of mildew]; around 300 cases are produced annually; 80% Merlot; 20% Cabernet Franc; pH 3.49; 13.4% alcohol). Darker still in hue than Laforge and with a load more viscosity and limpidity – this seems to draw light towards its shimmering black/garnet core and the shocking violet rim. A lovely nose of black cherries, cedar, nutmeg, ground mace and violets. This is a whole percentage lower in alcohol than the 2018, has a very low pH and is super fresh on the palate. The tannins are exquisitely soft and velvety on the entry but actually quite considerable – their fine granularity almost like a little conveyor belt of tiny finely-polished marbles or glass beads conveying the fresh blueberry and cherry fruit along the palate to a lovely gathered slightly chewy finish. On a par with the wonderful 2018 tasted recently.

Colin Hay, Drinks Business, June 2021



TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Wines will be delivered in wooden cases of 6 bottles each of 75cl unless otherwise specified at the time of order.
2. Delivery will be either:
 - a. To an approved bonded warehouse in the UK, subject to an In Bond delivery charge.
 - b. To a home, office or storage unit, subject to prior payment of Duty and VAT as applicable, and a Duty Paid delivery charge.
 - c. To a non-UK address by arrangement and subject to an overseas delivery charge.
3. Delivery by any method will be subject to payment of reasonable delivery charges, Duty and VAT in advance.
4. You are entitled to complimentary membership of the Honest Grapes Grand Crew Classé wine club.
5. You will be given first option to purchase new wines from JCP Maltus via Honest Grapes, subject to availability and on terms and conditions to be agreed.
6. In addition to receiving the wines listed above you are entitled to attend annual members' events. You are also welcome to arrange a visit to Château Teyssier and, the new winery by prior arrangement with JCP Maltus . Events will be subject to a reasonable charge to cover costs.
7. You understand that the wine in general may increase or decrease in value and that the quality of the wines cannot be guaranteed.

Pontet
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GET IN TOUCH

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