

ESTD 1842



TANNERS
WINE MERCHANTS

June 2023 En Primeur Offer

Bordeaux 2022



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As you may have already heard, 2022 will be remembered as a bit of a miracle vintage. With hot and dry conditions over much of the summer, it has been the complete opposite of 2021 which had struggled with a lack of sun and too much rain. Climatically, the 2022 vintage is much more like 2018 or even 2003, and yet it seems to be a huge success.



THE BIG PICTURE

For us, a team who together has tasted many vintages over recent years, 2022 is a great year. It is marked by genuine surprise for the winemakers but reflects the huge strides Bordeaux has taken to improve the quality and knowledge of their supreme region. There is more concern for the environment, biodiversity and less intervention in the vineyard. Gentler processes are the norm in the winery with smaller batches of wines made to increase the quality of the whole blend.

THE WINES

The vintage was termed ‘Prophetic’ by the team at Château Haut-Bailly, who, along with many others, believe the hot, dry conditions of 2022 are set to be the norm in the future, due to global warming. The cooler nights kept the acidity levels up, which is why many tasting notes mention “freshness” and “purity of flavour” – descriptions we’d usually use in a cool vintage. Merlot, usually planted on the cooler, wetter clay soils, plays an important part of the blend this year for the most part. Old-vine Cabernet Sauvignon also seemed to keep this acidity, meaning many of the top châteaux have made a great wine with character and personality. Many of the 300 wines tasted are good enough to drink now, straight out of the barrel – an unthinkable notion even twenty years ago. Yet their superb balance also offers great ageing potential, credit to their greater structure and substance compared to previous vintages.

THE CONDITIONS

The foundations of this remarkable vintage were laid out long before the September harvest of 2022. A comparatively

wetter 2021/2022 winter in Saint-Emilion and Pomerol than in the Médoc would go on to prove invaluable, but the earlier part of the year was notable for the significantly warm and dry conditions. Many producers suggested the vines experiencing this lack of rainfall at the beginning of the year intuitively reduced their water intake, perhaps foreseeing the dry conditions to come across the region.

A hot, dry growing season June to September saw Bordeaux experience frequent and prolonged heat waves (with temperatures getting as high as 40°C). Indeed, Edouard Moueix informed us that the region had experienced the highest recorded sunshine hours between June and September since 1949 – a total of 1175 hours!

“*remarkable vintage*”

Fortunately, there was some respite from the drought as showers in late June and July gave the vines some much-needed nourishment, staving off the worst effects of hydric stress. Significantly, and unlike recent hot vintages, night-time temperatures were sufficiently cool to enable the vines to rest and retain good acidity levels in the grapes.

When harvesting finally took place, it did so in perfect weather conditions. The absence of severe frost, coupled with consistent warmth and a lack of disease, has led to healthy thick-skinned grapes, rich in tannins with concentrated juice.

RECOMMENDED BORDEAUX PICKS

Whilst 2022 has undoubtedly produced some fantastic wines this is not unanimous across the board. Selection is very much the key to seeking out the best wines this vintage. Therefore, this document is our Recommended

Pick of the Bunch from the 2022 vintage. For the full offer please go to our Bordeaux Hub at www.tanners-wines.co.uk/bordeaux-2022 where you can find the latest releases, availability and reports.



En Primeur: What does it mean?

All the 2022 wines in this offer are offered ‘En Primeur Lying Abroad’. This means that you pay for the wine itself when you place your order and the duty (currently £2.23 ex VAT per 75cl bottle) and VAT. (As of 1st August, £2.67 ex VAT per 75cl bottle) at the prevailing rates on the whole at the time of shipment and any other applicable tariffs. We anticipate shipping these wines in 2025.

Storage Wines

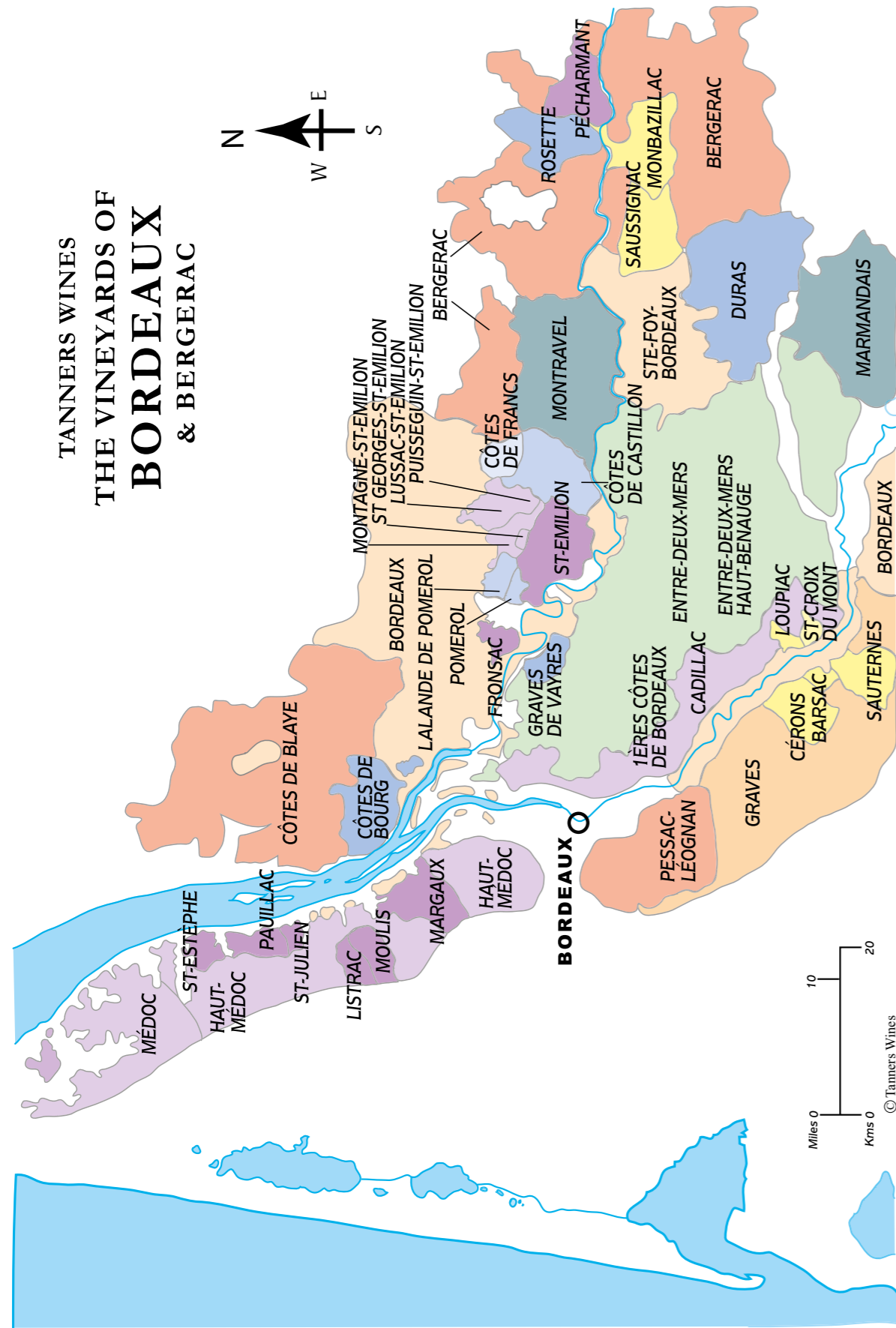
Storage Wines purchased from Tanners by the case can be stored in bond.

More Information

For advice, please ring the Fine Wine Team: Graham, Robin, Aaran or Aiden on 01743 234455.

“The wines are certainly extremely impressive.”

Jancis Robinson, www.jancisrobinson.com/articles/bordeauxs-surprising-2022-vintage, May 2023



Left Bank

Médoc and Haut-Médoc

Invariably the realm of good value, straightforward clarets, amongst which some stars can be found. In a ‘solar’ year such as 2022 the cooler, less free-draining soils of the Médoc in the north come into their own so that properties like **La Tour de By** can, and have, made a compelling wine. The Fifth Growth **Cantemerle** has made another classy and sophisticated wine, as has **Lanessan**, situated just south of Beychevelle. Both of these benefit from their locations just outside the more premium communes. Another side to finding quality in these appellations is to follow properties attached to bigger names in Bordeaux: Sénéjac gets the winemaking talent from Talbot; while **Madame de Beaucaillou** is part of the Ducru-Beaucaillou stable. Both are on top form this year, their terroir backed up by investment from the ‘parent’ property.

Moulis and Listrac

Both appellations here are further to the west of the river, the vineyards running up from north of Margaux. These are heavier, cooler soils which work best in warmer years although frost is often a problem, and there were pockets of frost in Spring 2022. **Mauvesin-Barton** makes a lovely, lighter style than stablemates Léoville and Langoa in Saint-Julien, and that light touch has worked very well in 2022. **Chasse-Spleen** is also one of our highlights, this is finally back where it should be, the excesses of recent vintages reined in and a charming, poised wine the result.

Margaux

Often the trickiest of the communes to pin a style to, as there are lots of châteaux across a big area. We looked for charm and balance but, despite this being an easier tasting than it often is, a number of Margaux big guns were just that: big and expressive. Tannins were quite chunky in places and alcohol levels more over 14% than under. **Angludet** was one of our top picks, getting the balance right. Margaux itself and **Palmer** were impressive with plenty of substance. **Durfort-Vivens** and **Ferrière** both seemed to benefit from the biodynamic regimes that are used here – equally leaving herbage between the rows could reduce the heat in the vineyard by up to 10 degrees, a great bonus this year across many communes.

Saint-Julien

Once again Saint-Julien came top of the communes in our book, probably because it covers many top producers more concentrated than elsewhere. Many stars include **Léoville** and **Langoa Barton**, **Branaire-Ducru** (best yet), the stables at both **Ducru-Beaucaillou** and **Talbot**, as well as the very affordable **Gloria**. Saint-Julien offers probably the most balanced wines, softer and well-knit yet having plenty of presence and individual character.

Pauillac

Home to three First Growths, Pauillac is in a brilliant location which has accounted, historically, for its position at the top of the Left Bank tree. Interestingly you see quite a wide variation in styles; Lafite this year has much more restraint, Mouton a very plush, opulent side while **Grand-Puy-Lacoste** and **Pontet-Canet** have more depth and concentration than other recent vintages. The Batailley stable caught our eye again, while there is much talk about improvements at **Grand-Puy Ducasse**. The measure of success here was to have ‘Pauillac power’ but with silky tannins, a proper framework behind rich, dark fruit that has purity and sweetness to it. Our recommendations are all on the money.

Saint-Estèphe

This commune does well in ‘solar’ vintages, although there were two added issues in 2022. A late frost hit here more than neighbouring Pauillac; although not critical, some yields were cut back. Then in early June there was a significant hailstorm which again reduced yields, this time severely in places. The main upshot was that many properties needed to use as much fruit as they could, resulting in less ‘second’ wine being produced, and in places more press wine. The skill and technology of the top properties calmly circumvented this, with châteaux like **Montrose** and **Calon-Ségur** making outstanding wines, lovely fruit underpinned by proper Saint-Estèphe structure. **Phélan Ségur** and **Meyney** are excellent too, as are **Ormes de Pez** and **Lilian-Ladouys**, both of whom benefit from being part of Lynch Bages and Pédesclaux respectively. As a generalisation, and with requisite good balance, the Saint-Estèphe wines have a bit more potential for ageing than other communes.

Pessac-Léognan

Producing outstanding whites as well as reds, the message from this great area on the south side of Bordeaux can be difficult to get across as what can be a great vintage for one colour is not necessarily reflected in the other. In 2022 there are brilliant examples of both, but not everywhere was uniform. Balance between alcohol and purity of fruit was important and, like Margaux, some wines are big and chunky with a lot of grainy tannins. Stand-outs for making harmonious reds were **Carmes Haut-Brion**, **Haut Bailly**, **Smith-Haut-Lafitte** and our favourite, **Domaine de Chevalier**. Lespault-Martillac, from the Chevalier stable, impressed us, as did a surprisingly good de Fieuzal whose red is often overshadowed by its white.



Horse ploughing at Château Carmes Haut-Brion



Château Langoa Barton barrel cellar

The Wines

Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc	DCR45022	12bts	£102
Big wine in 2022. Good nose with cassis and damson fruit. Chunky on the front palate with grip coming through later, typical blue fruit purity, plenty of tannin and good clean finish. An easy, long-term prospect, one to age. 5-15 years.	DCR45022H	24halves	£126
	DCR45022M	6mags	£116
	DCR45022J	1jero	£62
Château Vieux Robin, Médoc	DCR45522	12bts	£108
In a year when drought and position played a big part in the balance of the final wine, this Médoc property had some superb Merlot that has richness and structure without too much of either. Soft and fleshy with some chalky tannins, this is a lovely, easy wine for the short-term. 3-9 years.			
Château La Tour de By, Médoc	DCR45322	12bts	£123
Tasted in some exalted company from Pauillac, we were really impressed and delighted how this wine stood out from its peers. All the characteristics of the vintage were on show: dark mulberry fruit, ripeness and concentration, freshness and purity plus a bit of extra depth and length. Smooth and characterful, this wine should be in your cellar this year. 3-9 years.	DCR45322H	24halves	£144
	DCR45322M	6mags	£138
	DCR45322J	1jero	£72.50
	DCR45322I	1imperial	£130
Château Sénéjac, Haut-Médoc	DCR47422	12bts	£144
Part of the Talbot stable, this has an impressive curranty nose, a rich and sweet feel on the front with easy tannins behind. Cool finish, almost blackberry jelly and toast, very delicious! Fine tannin underpins it, good substance. Very good effort all round, don't discount it. 3-9 years.			
Château Lanessan, Haut-Médoc	DCR45222	12bts	£147
Dark vivid colour with a floral nose then blackberry jelly backed by firm tannins. Good concentration of sweet fruit with ripe tannins, super freshness on the finish. The whole feels very poised and good for mid to long term. 3-9 years.			
Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc	DCR49022	12bts	£147
Plenty of black cherry fruit with plum and a touch of violet on the nose, then more juicy black cherry on the palate. Very fresh and zippy, focused on the finish. A lovely line of clean fruit on a mid-weight texture, very drinkable. 0-5 years.			
Madame de Beaucaillou, Haut-Médoc	DCR33122	12bts	£156
Plenty of plum and cassis, mid-weight on the palate, well-shaped with earlier drinking in mind. More obvious alcohol that balances the grip, and some new oak on the finish. First made in 2018, Bruno Borie describes it, very aptly, as his "bistro wine". The stable is bang in form. 3-9 years.			
6 BOTTLE CASES			
Château Lilian Ladouys, Saint-Estèphe	DCR34522	6bts	£87
Quite floral on the nose. Good, sweet fruit on the palate with nice texture, not too much weight for the style but chalky tannins and good persistence. Part of the Pédesclaux stable and reaping the benefits of top winemaking investment, it continues its good recent run. 5-10 years.			
Connétable Talbot, Saint-Julien	DCR38222	6bts	£105
Delicious forward fruit with nice coolness, aged in old oak only so the purity floods through with tannins very much in the background. More class than power with a lovely balance, making this an easy drinker for the mid-term. One of the best second wines of the Médoc in our opinion. 3-9 years.			
Château La Gurgue, Margaux (organic)	DCR30922	6bts	£105
Rich, spicy, brambly nose leads to a good, grainy texture. A big wine, ripe yet very clean, with juicy red fruit on the finish. The biodynamic regime here was bolstered by water-retentive soils and the energy behind this wine is palpable. A very fresh style. 3-9 years.			
Lions de Batailley, Pauillac	DCR37422	6bts	£105
The second wine of fifth growth Château Batailley, named after the Lions that 'guard' the gate. A soft and approachable wine from mostly Cabernet Sauvignon, good cassis fruit coupled with gentle tannins. 3-9 years.			
Château Haut-Bages Monpelou, Pauillac	DCR33622	6bts	£108
Lovely nose with toasty oak underpinning attractive plum and damson fruit on the nose. Fresh on the palate, with a bit more blueberry and a jacket of ripe, grainy tannins. Good Pauillac character, this feels like it will take on more weight with age. 5-10 years.			

Château Lespault-Martillac Rouge, Pessac-Léognan	DCR56922	6bts	£108			
Delicious, warm and fruity style on the nose and then lovely, round, ripe plummy notes in the mouth. Damson comes through on the finish but the texture is soft and quite gentle. Good length, very approachable. 3-9 years.						
Château Capbern, Saint-Estèphe	DCR35522	6bts	£115.50			
Hugely impressive from the dominant Calon-Ségur stable, there's a lovely round feel to this. Blackcurrant and blackberry fool, then an energy and finesse on the palate backed up by firm but supple new oak and good length. Great wine and great value. 3-9 years.						
Sarget de Gruaud Larose, Saint-Julien	DCR37522	6bts	£117			
Always a dependable 'second', Sarget is typically full of blueberry and blackberry fruit, soft tannins and an easy feel in the mouth. The whole is very complete, well textured and quite lively on the finish. It's a classic Sarget made to drink quite early yet showing the power of Gruaud in the background. A good pick this vintage to enjoy a bit younger. 3-9 years.						
Château Tronquoy, Saint-Estèphe	DCR35222	6bts	£120			
Previously Tronquoy-Lalande, the wealth of floral aromas draw you in. Big, rich notes of blackcurrant, black cherry, dark chocolate and spice envelope the palate. With a touch of creamy oak and sweet tobacco on the finish, this is an excellent effort from this newly rebranded debutant. 5-15 years.						
Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac	DCR38022	6bts	£121.50			
Superb aroma on Grand-Puy-Lacoste's second wine, with sweeping black fruit and violet. There is an harmonious feel in the mouth, which is cool and smooth, making it very approachable. It's an easy wine with class and simplicity, a joy to drink now but with potential to age some too. 3-9 years.						
Château Les Ormes de Pez, Saint-Estèphe	DCR34922	6bts	£130.50			
Quite a herby nose followed by a more mineral, fresh style on the palate. Dark brambly core of fruit is wrapped up in honest, St-Estèphe stony character with a toasty finish. Well built, has potential. Fortunate to miss the frost and hail that hit the commune. 3-9 years.						
Château Cantemerle, 5e cru classé Haut-Médoc	DCR27122	6bts	£133.50			
This wine impressed again, plenty of volume and density of mulberry and damson fruit all in harmony with a firm but ripe tannic structure. Balance is good, finish is clean and fresh with excellent length. On form, as it so often is. 3-9 years.						
Château Olivier, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan	DCR58622	6bts	£135			
Being half Merlot there's an enticing fleshy side to the black fruit character. Fresh black cherry on the palate, which is quite juicy with chunky tannins behind and a zippy finish with good length. Hangs together well. 3-9 years.						
Le Petit Ducru de Ducru-Beaucaillou, Saint-Julien	DCR33022	6bts	£136.50			
This wine replaced Lalande-Borie from the 2019 vintage as the third wine of Ducru-Beaucaillou, and Bruno Borie describes it as his 'Sunday drinking'! 75% Merlot here, the nose perfumed and the palate structured but supple. Feels quite concentrated in the mouth, good line with toasty oak but enough freshness too in the finish. Lovely wine this year. 3-9 years.						
Château Meyney, Saint-Estèphe	DCR35022	6bts	£141			
It seems that the hail couldn't stop the improvement that we've seen here in the last decade. Right next door to the much-lauded Montrose, Meyney shows the same intensity of black fruit, plenty of grippy tannins too, almost a menthol and clove cool side to it, tension in the finish and good persistence. A very good effort. 5-10 years.						
Marquis de Calon, Saint-Estèphe	DCR34422	6bts	£144			
Another superb nose, full of fruit and blossom, very attractive. Nice sweet fruit in the mouth, great balance and soft, rounded feel in the finish. Enough structure but an earlier drinker than some. 3-9 years.						
Château Chasse-Spleen, Moulis-en-Médoc	DCR45122	6bts	£147			
Lovely nose of damson with blackcurrant pastille which comes through as a solid core on the palate surrounded by firm tannins. Good substance but more harmonious than recent vintages, getting back to a more refined style. A fine effort this year. 5-15 years.						
Château Angludet, Margaux	DCR30022	6bts	£162			
Another really good Angludet that stood out at the Margaux tasting for its equilibrium and restraint while some others were more clumsy. Plenty of violet on the nose, then juicy, round black fruit coupled with silky tannins, with purity and freshness forging through to the finish. Balanced and accurate, a very successful Margaux. 5-15 years.						
				DCR30022H	12halves	£180
				DCR30022M	3mags	£171

Château Lynch-Moussas, 5e cru classé Pauillac	DCR28422	6bts	£174
More improvement for this wine from the Borie-Manoux stable, now a good value Pauillac with plenty of power and chunk in its make-up, robust but with ripeness. Damson, blood orange and toasty oak all give plenty of character, but there's complexity and harmony too. Good effort. 3-9 years.			
Château Batailley, 5e cru classé Pauillac	DCR28022	6bts	£186
A special 'en-priméur' label in honour of the late Queen reverses the gold DCR28022M 3mags £201 onto black this year. The wine is great: a favourite of ours and still an exceptionally good price for the quality. Excellent ripeness balanced by silky tannins, effortless acidity keeping the whole feel pure and vibrant with lots of presence. Yet again a solid recommendation, an excellent wine. 5-15 years.			
Château Gloria, Saint-Julien	DCR32522	6bts	£189
Dark, plenty of concentration here and good structure, the mouthfeel is big and beefy but the balance is good. There's a smooth, fleshy character this year, generous and big but just on the right side of being too much. Impressive and well-made, Gloria is on a good run. 3-9 years.			
Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, 5e cru classé Pauillac	DCR27622	6bts	£189
A château that has recently blossomed with better texture and presence than a decade back. Bacon fat on the nose, then lovely, luscious ripe black fruit at its core surrounded by dense yet chalky tannins that build to the finish. There's generosity about this wine, power and yet elegance on the finish. Very good all-round effort. 5-15+ years.			
Château Ferrière, 3e cru classé Margaux (organic)	DCR24622	6bts	£201
From the biodynamically driven stable of Claire Villars-Lurton which we feel has done better than many in Margaux this year. The juicy, 'cool fruit' style is backed up by a ripeness and richness at its core while that clean, pure finish shows too. The attention to detail is very much reflected in a precise, focused wine - very good this year. 5-15 years.			
Château Haut-Bages Libéral, 5e cru classé Pauillac (organic)	DCR27322	6bts	£201
With the highest yield across Pauillac, this wine has done well with very good balanced proportions. Blackberry fruit with damson jelly gives a juicy, ripe but pure feel to it. Forward with generous flavours, some tannin and a keen seam of acidity, good depth and concentration at the end. The whole effect is charming and a success. 5-15 years.			
Château Lafon-Rochet, 4e cru classé Saint-Estèphe	DCR26522	6bts	£210
One of the last wines we tasted, so plenty to judge it by, and comparisons are good. Plenty of black fruit, some robust tannins and a chunky presence overall, with richness and ripeness coming through on the palate. Fine oak on the finish, this is firm but succulent and should age well. 5-15 years.			
Château Phélan Ségur, Saint-Estèphe	DCR34722	6bts	£225
Attractive, almost smoky nose from 56% Merlot this year. Good weight of ripe fruit backed by ripe if grippy tannins and nice balancing acidity. The whole builds to a big mouthful in the finish. Stylish and typically Saint-Estèphe, another very good effort from a rising property, well worth a look if you want a keeper. 5-15 years.			
Château Talbot, 4e cru classé Saint-Julien	DCR26322	6bts	£289.50
At 40 hl/ha Talbot has the highest yield in St-Julien this year and has made a gorgeous wine. Juicy blackberry and blueberry fruit with a lick of oak behind, very fine tannins and a silky fresh finish. Poise and precision are the characteristics of Talbot this year, making it one of the best wines of this vintage. 5-15 years.			
Château d'Issan, 3e cru classé Margaux	DCR24822	6bts	£306
"This is one hell of an Issan with blackberry, blackcurrant, and hazelnut aromas and flavors. Cherries. Cedar. Full and intense with tannins that are long and bright. Goes tight at the end, indicating greatness." 96/97 points, James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, April 2023. 5-15 years.			
Château Durfort-Vivens, 2e cru classé Margaux	DCR21122	6bts	£330
Gonzargue Lurton has fashioned a delicious, structured yet ripe and concentrated wine this year. For a second growth Durfort is always good value and the depth and definition of the black fruit is wrapped in chunky, grainy tannins that work well to support the texture here. Biodynamic practices have created a bright, vibrant character, lots of freshness on the finish. A super effort and a Margaux to admire. 5-15 years.			
Domaine de Chevalier Rouge, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan	DCR58822	6bts	£340.50
Gloriously spicy nose of cinnamon and damson, underpinned with a lick of new oak. Masses of dense black fruit on the palate, blackberry and blueberry freshness come through on the end. A layered feeling of integrated fruit and oak, mid-weight and great balance - simple but stylish, which works a treat. Excellent. 5-15 years.			

Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, 5e cru classé Pauillac DCR27022 6bts £358.50
 Gorgeous blackberry jelly nose with a touch of spice. Velvety with a complex mix of classic clarety flavours on the palate. Tobacco and cedar are in the background at this stage, but that great GPL structure of long, fine, silky tannins underpin some lush fruit. Restrained in the finish yet very persistent. Length and precision, the hallmarks of another great Pauillac at a decent price. 5-15 years.

Château Clerc Milon, 5e cru classé Pauillac DCR27422 6bts £396
 Mulberry fruit on the nose, more on the palate with a ripe compote feel, lovely texture with chalky tannins propping up the mouthfeel. Generous and attractive, cool and fresh on the finish. Neat and polished. 5-15 years.

Alter Ego de Château Palmer, Margaux DCR38522 6bts £402
 Merlot was the key here and only a third of production went into Alter Ego. Lots of structure for Margaux, but the mass of dark fruit, damson and coffee notes wear the firm tannins well. Voluptuous in the mouth, plenty of spice, more extraction than usual, this may take more time to come round, but will be worth the wait. 5-15 years.

Château Gruaud Larose, 2e cru classé Saint-Julien DCR21722 6bts £420
 Super mix of fruit: damson, plum, raspberry and a shot of currant. Soft, round and svelte in the mouth, restrained and mineral with plenty of power but refined tannins and great persistence. Very good length too. Superb focus and definition, a very good to excellent wine. 5-15+ years.

Château Léoville Poyferré, 2e cru classé Saint-Julien DCR21922 6bts £507
 Attractive floral aromas, blackcurrant too. A blueberry centre with some tight tannins at present, then becomes long and quite luscious, still fresh yet with power on the finish. Juicy in nature, more structured than some but good potential. 5-15+ years.

Château Rauzan-Ségla, 2e cru classé Margaux DCR21822 6bts £507
 "This château has been firing on all cylinders of late, no doubt due to the talents of technical director Nicolas Audebert, and a wine that's going to flirt with perfection is their 2022 Château Rauzan-Ségla. Powerful notes of black cherries, currants, smoked tobacco, chocolate, and leafy herbs all define the aromatics, and it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a deep, layered, concentrated texture, ripe yet building tannins, and a great finish. This is a legit great wine that's going to rival the 2010, 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2020." 97/99 Points, *Jeb Dunnuck, Jebdunnuck.com*, May 2023. 5-15 years.

Château Pontet-Canet, 5e cru classé Pauillac (organic) DCR27722 6bts £538.50
 After a bit of frost loss restricted yields again, this is a magnificent Pontet-Canet. Gorgeous nose full of sweet ripe fruit, black pastilles coming through. In the mouth it's dense, yet fresh - layers of fine blueberry fruit, soft yet structured. Grainy tannins are balanced, ripe and integrated. Power comes on in the finish but kept in check, depth all the way in a very long finish. A superb wine. 5-15+ years.

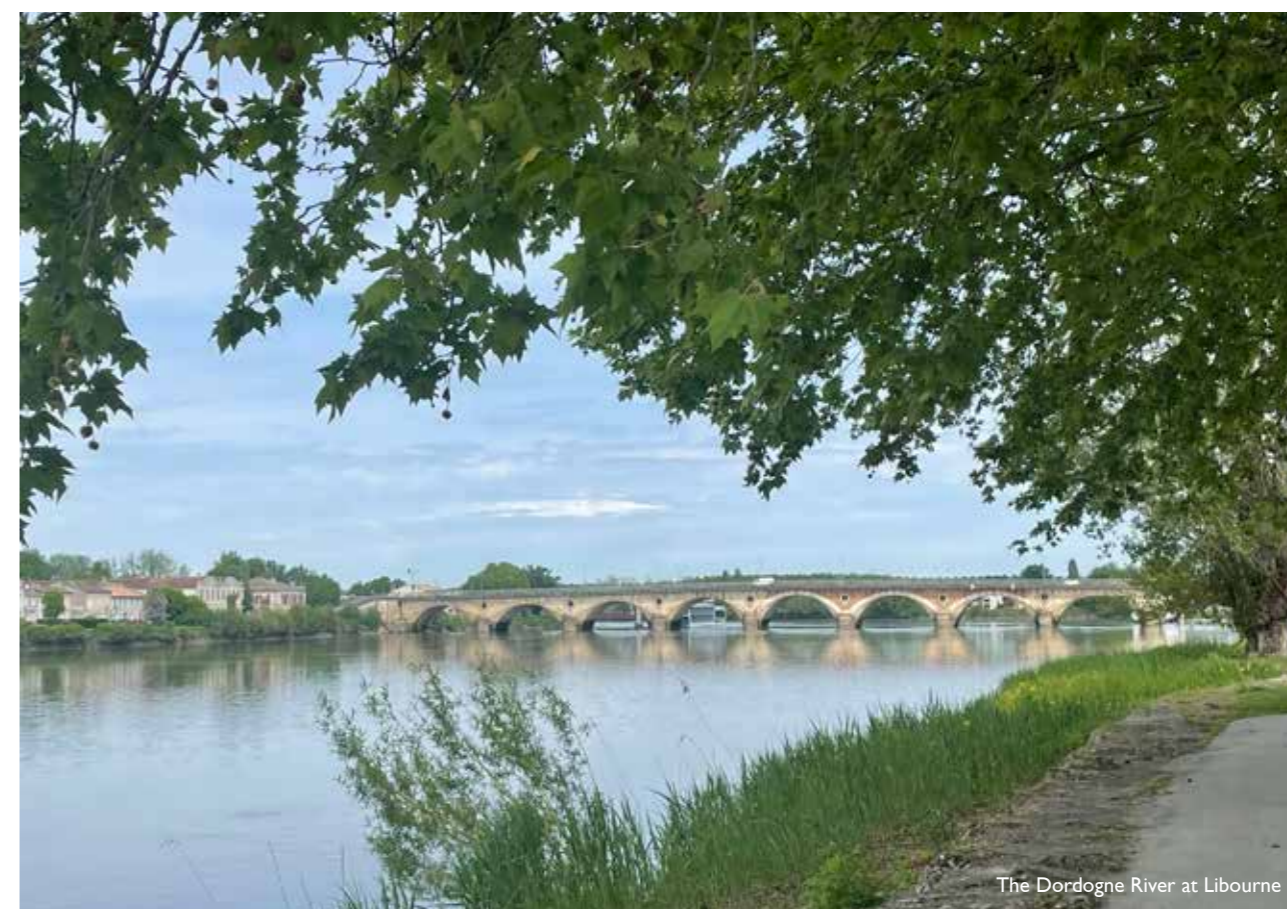
Château Lynch-Bages, 5e cru classé Pauillac DCR27222 6bts £636
 Intense blueberry and blackberry jelly on the nose. The palate is rich, with deep black fruit and an enticing freshness, backed by silky tannins with a hint of vanilla. More restrained than in the past, an improvement, and although the character and power of Pauillac show, there is better balance, suppleness and charm this year. Fabulous. 5-15+ years.

Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, 2e cru classé Saint-Julien DCR21422 6bts £1122
 The high point of a superb tasting at Ducru-Beaucaillou. Spiced damson to start, then blueberry and mulberry cascades onto the palate with silky tannins, very fine, intense with poise and finesse, very fluid, clean finish and lovely persistence. The whole feels very complete, nicely concentrated with impeccable balance. Lots of energy about it, definitely worthy of its status and rank. 5-15 years.

Château Palmer, 3e cru classé Margaux DCR24022 6bts £1788
 A big, long-term prospect with gutsy tannin, almost over-ripe but chock full of ripe damson fruit that needs the grip to work. Plenty of alcohol but balanced by the quality of fine tannin and density of fruit. Impressive, if powerful and somewhat atypical. 5-15+ years.



Château Figeac winery



The Dordogne River at Libourne

Right Bank

Pomerol

A fabulous year for Pomerol. Despite the vineyards baking under the heat of a long hot summer, Merlot and Cabernet Franc excelled providing the ingredients for many stellar creations. At their very best the wines are vibrant, sumptuous, and multi-layered with an incredible depth of core fruit. Big hitters like **Vieux Château Certan** and **Château L'Eglise-Clinet** have produced contenders for Right Bank wine of the vintage whilst the excellent performance of many of the lesser-known Chateaux such as **Château Bonalgue** means there's temptation at every price level.

Saint-Emilion

Traditionally the greater diversity of terroir in Saint-Emilion results in a broader range of styles compared to Pomerol and this year is no exception. Despite the stylistic differences there's a common thread of abundant blue, black and often red fruit running through the wines. Tanners favourite **Château Pipeau** produced a powerhouse of black fruit, spice, mocha and toasty oak notes whilst current 'hot' property **Château Laroque** continues to win plaudits

with its beautiful aromatics, layered fruit and vivacity. The very elite of this commune have produced wonders, with **Château Figeac** justifying its recent promotion conjuring up a magical multi-layered wine whilst 1er grand cru classé **Château Canon** continues its superb run of form producing one of the estates finest releases.

The Satellites & Côtes de Bordeaux

When very good vintages like 2022 come around its always worth seeking out wines from the 'lesser' appellations as they provide great bang for your buck. The finest examples provide a freshness and depth of sumptuous plummy, damson fruit which make them frankly irresistible. From Castillon-Côtes de Bordeaux, **Château Montlandrie** produced a fruit bomb, guaranteed to satisfy anyone savvy enough to pick up a case whilst **Château de Bel-Air** of Lalande-de-Pomerol put its hand up for 'find of the vintage', offering up a wealth of aromatics, sweet plummy fruit and a roundness on the finish which sum up the impressive quality coming from this and other satellite appellations this year.

The Wines

Château La Prade, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux	DCR03922	12bts	£117
Quite subtle violet and purple fruit aromas on the nose are followed by excellent depth of crunchy damson and plum fruit. Nicely structured with ripe tannins and bright acidity. A hint of toasty oak on the finish rounds off a genuine crowd pleaser. 3-9 years.			
Château Puygueraud, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux	DCR04022	12bts	£123
This opens with lovely aromatics of bluberry, violets and a hint of garrigue. Nicely balanced with a core of juicy sweet blackcurrant, damson and plum notes and refreshing lick of acidity. I can't recall tasting a better young Puygueraud! 3-9 years.			
Château du Courlat, Cuvée Jean Baptiste, Lussac-St-Emilion	DCR65422	12bts	£123
A marriage of old vines and new this is 100% Merlot draws you in with wonderful aromas of warm blue fruit crumble and spice. The palate is full of juicy, plum and damson notes, lifted by some bright acidity. With a hint of bitter dark chocolate and new oak on the finish, this is a solid performance. 3-9 years.			
Saintem, Saint-Emilion grand cru	DCR73922	12bts	£150
Exuberant, fragrant notes of violets with plums and a hint of garrigue. These are followed by a juicy, deep core of mulberries, black cherries and toasty notes. Holding its own at an impressive line up at L'Eglise-Clinet, this is an excellent Saintem, perhaps the best yet? 3-9 years.			
Château Les Hauts Conseillants, Lalande-de-Pomerol	DCR65222	12bts	£153
Full of black fruit and damson, there's also hints of spice and hedgerow fruit. Characteristically dense and nicely structured, the tannins are silky smooth. A super effort from this often over looked Chateau. 0-5 years.			
Château Pipeau, Saint-Emilion grand cru	DCR74422	12bts	£156
Powerful from the outset with aromas of black hedgerow fruit and hints of spice. Nicely textured with a deep intense core of damson, plum and blackberry giving way to notes of dark chocolate, liquorice and oak. A little grippy, but still fresh, it finishes nicely with warm toasty and nutty notes. This will only get better with time. 3-9 years.			
Château Joanin Bécot, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux	DCR04422	12bts	£180
A great mix of dark berry fruits, black cherry and rich plum, dotted with sweet spices, liquorice and dark flowers. On the full side of medium-bodied, with excellent concentration, good energy and full of promise. 3-9 years.			

Château de Fonbel, Saint-Emilion grand cru	DCR72222	12bts	£180
A smoky hint is followed by plums, black cherry and violets. Juicy and fleshy on the palate with excellent depth of fruit. This is well balanced with some chewy tannins, ideal for short term cellaring. 3-9 years.			
Château de Bel-Air, Lalande-de-Pomerol	DCR65722	12bts	£186
Sweet and juicy fruit propped up with supple tannins giving it a very round feel, black cherry and plum fool in the mouth. This is wonderfully balanced and harmonious. Out of the Mouiex stable where the restraint in winemaking is noteworthy this year, a firm recommendation for a good value wine. 3-9 years.			
Château Montlandrie, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux	DCR05922	12bts	£204
From the Durantou stable, this Montlandrie has huge promise. Deliciously aromatic with floral, and crushed black and red fruit notes. This is powerful, a real fruit bomb but also showing a complexity and length that make it a standout wine. For value this will be hard to beat! 3-9 years.			
6 BOTTLE CASES			
Château Pindefleurs, Saint-Emilion grand cru	DCR73822	6bts	£97.50
Polished violet aromas give way to intense notes of black fruit and sweet cherry. Well structured with grippy tannins, this has more mineral tones than some and should age nicely. There's a vein of new oak running through and saline finish; it's a solid effort. 3-9 years.			
Château Les Cruzelles, Lalande-de-Pomerol	DCR65322	6bts	£120
Another strong effort from the Durantou portfolio. Les Cruzelles has a wonderful energy from the get-go, drawing you in with exotic aromatics which lead to crunchy notes of morello cherry, mulberry and plum. The fleshy fruit is underpinned by subtle use of new oak and some grippy tannins, an all-round classy wine that showcases the excellence of this satellite commune. 3-9 years.			
Château Laroque, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion	DCR77422	6bts	£147
Nicely defined strawberry and raspberry fruit, becoming a little herbier and darker, with a touch of new oak. Structured with great intensity and a supple, creamy core ahead of a grippy finish. Fleshy, elegant, refined and long. 5-15 years.	DCR77422M	6mags	£312
Château Bonalgue, Pomerol	DCR68522	6bts	£150
This is a super Bonalgue, exhibiting floral and blue fruit notes on the nose. Layers of intense red and black fruit, spice oak and herby notes follow through on the palate. A fleshy, sophisticated wine with a little grip on the finish, this has a bright future ahead of it. 3-9 years.			
Château de Ferrand, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion	DCR77822	6bts	£150
Located at the highest point of Saint-Emilion this newcomer to our list is destined to become a firm favourite. Suitably deep purple in colour and oozing perfumed notes of black and red berries, spice and vanilla, its balanced, nicely structured with ripe, smooth tannins. Juicy and generous in style this finishes with lengthy notes of toast and sweet tobacco. An excellent debut from this ambitious property. 5-15 years.			
Château du Domaine de l'Eglise, Pomerol	DCR62922	6bts	£171
This Château goes from strength to strength. Deliciously perfumed aromas of plum, violets and black cherries are followed by a sumptuous fleshy core of damson and mulberry. Super creamy with bright acidity it finishes with lovely notes of roasted coffee and toasty oak. 3-9 years.	DCR62922M	6mags	£354
	DCR62922J	1jero	£159
Château La Serre, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion	DCR80722	6bts	£273
A subtle nose of violets leads to a wealth of beautiful pure black cherry, black currant and plum fruit. Precise and polished in style, this is harmonious and balanced. Signed off by hints of liquorice and herb on the long finish, kudos to the team! 3-9 years.			
Château Berliquet, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion	DCR75122	6bts	£274.50
Enticing bright, aromatic fruits and floral aromas fill the nose. The palate is packed full of wild plums, raspberries and blueberries with a fresh mineral note to lift the finish. Very appealing. 3-9 years.			
Clos du Clocher, Pomerol	DCR68722	6bts	£291
Perfumed notes of violets and cassis are followed by a swathe of blue, black and plummy fruit. Precise in style. beautifully smooth, the tannins and oak are effortlessly intergrated. Silky and fine on the finish, this is impressive stuff! 5-15 years.	DCR68722J	1jero	£230

Château Feytit-Clinet, Pomerol DCR67622 6bts £306

Intoxicating notes of violets and plum leap out of the glass, quickly followed by a dense core of purple fruits, dark chocolate, cherry tobacco and graphite. Medium-bodied, with well-integrated tannins, its deceptively smooth with a long finish. A return to form for this underrated estate. 5-15 years.

Château Canon-La-Gaffelière, 1er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion DCR80422 6bts £390

This Château has great form for producing fabulous wine. The subtle use of new oak allows aromatic notes of luscious red crumble and rose petals to jump out. The palate shows a deep, fleshy core of plum and damsons, giving way to a long saline finish. Wonderfully integrated, fresh and sophisticated, this is another triumph! 5-15 years.

Château Pavie-Macquin, 1er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion DCR81622 6bts £405

Arguably one of the biggest wines of the visit, this powerhouse is full on from outset. Intense exotic aromatics of damson, violets and fleshy plum precede a big, core of inky black and blue fruit. Built to last, the use of 70% new oak is inescapable, if you like your wine dense and oaky this is for you! 5-15+ years.

Château Larcis-Ducasse, 1er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion DCR76722 6bts £433.50

Still very tight on the nose, this Larcis is one for the long term. The indulgent use of new oak makes this a brooding, muscular wine, with masses of dense hedgerow fruit, spice and chalky tannins. Difficult to navigate at the moment, but on returning I found an elegance coming through, this should come good in time. 5-15 years.

Château Clinet, Pomerol DCR68622 6bts £490.50

Undoubtedly the best wine at the UGC tasting held at Château Beaugard. It opens with delicious, exotic floral and cherry aromatics. Leading onto a wealth of spice, rich, sweet juicy black fruit and oak, finishing long with toasty mocha and dark chocolate. A terrific Clinet. 5-15 years.

Château Hosanna, Pomerol DCR70222 6bts £700.50

Sleek and fresh this was so moreish. Less power than its counterparts but brimming with intense purple & black fruit and liquorice. The fine tannins and lifted acidity are seamless, a real precise engaging wine which I adored! 5-12 years.

L'If, Saint-Emilion DCR76122 6bts £798

The 12th vintage of this sought after estate delivers alluring aromatics of mulberry and spice. With some appealing grippy tannins, this is intense yet wonderfully fresh and plush in style. Rich and polished with a hint of salinity on the finish, the increasing use of Cabernet Franc in the blend is paying dividends. 5-15 years.

Château Bélair Monange, 1er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion DCR77022 6bts £850.50

Often overlooked, this estate is definitely one to seek out. A beautifully crafted wine, the 2022 offers up enticing notes of damson, forest fruits, plums and flora. Big in structure but still supple, the minerality and youthful acidity shine through. Long and layered on the finish, this is another classy release from this consistently excellent Château. 5-15 years.

La Chapelle d'Ausone, Saint-Emilion DCR77722 6bts £870

An exotic floral nose with hints of creamy Kirsch and framboise. Fresh and polished with excellent depth and purity of fruit. This is wonderfully integrated, a very classy second wine! 5-15 years.

Château La Fleur-Pétrus, Pomerol DCR70022 6bts £1131

That nose! Wow! The aromatics of violets, cassis, cherry and toasty oak notes jump out of the glass. Rolling onto the palate, you can pick up extras of plum, hedgerow and smoky charcuterie. Wonderfully fleshy, intense with a subtle power this is very complete and will be a must buy for any LFP fans! 5-15+ years.

Vieux Château Certan, Pomerol DCR71022 6bts £1650

This is a stunner! A gorgeous, heady nose of cassis, spice and blackberries moves to a super plush palate of plum, damson and notes of liquorice. Wonderfully opulent, full bodied and showing multidimensional complexity, this a real tour de force from Alexandre Thienpont. 5-15+ years.

LARGER SIZES:

Mag = 150cl Jero = 300cl Imperial = 600cl

The Cellars

To make starting or adding to your collection simple we have put together four Cellars. These are collections that link individual wines, styles or areas to bring you the best Bordeaux can offer.

CELLAR A - VALUE CELLAR

Choice is a great thing but when a vintage is of such quality, like 2022, there are many tempting wines to choose from. With an emphasis on quality and a keen eye on value for money, each of these five wines has been specially chosen to provide any Bordeaux lover with the essence of the 2022 vintage.

- Madame de Beaucaillou, Haut-Médoc
- Château Puygueraud, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux
- Château du Courlat, Cuvée Jean Baptiste, Lussac-St-Emilion
- Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc
- Château La Tour de By, Médoc

30 bottles (6 of each) £336

CELLAR B - RIGHT BANK CELLAR

A sumptuous quartet to reflect the stellar performances of Merlot and Cabernet Franc in 2022. Containing two wines from each of the Right Bank appellations of Pomerol and Saint-Emilion, this cellar has all the ingredients and variety to provide excellent early drinking, whilst rewarding those patient enough to cellar for several more years.

- Château du Domaine de l'Eglise, Pomerol
- Château Pipeau, Saint-Emilion grand cru
- Château Bonalogue, Pomerol
- Château de Fonbel, Saint-Emilion grand cru

24 bottles (6 of each) £489

CELLAR C - LEFT BANK CELLAR

This mouth-watering Cabernet Sauvignon dominant selection perfectly captures the superb quality of the 2022 vintage. Encompassing old and new favourites from Margaux, Pessac-Léognan, Saint-Julien and Saint-Estèphe, this cellar offers a wealth of structure, freshness and depth of core black fruit, making this a must buy for any savvy Left Bank wine lover.

- Château Angludet, Margaux
- Le Petit Ducru de Ducru-Beaucaillou, Saint-Julien
- Château Tronquoy, Saint-Estèphe
- Château Lespault-Martillac Rouge, Pessac-Léognan

24 bottles (6 of each) £526.50

CELLAR D - MAGNUMS CELLAR

It's a widely held belief in the wine trade that wines drunk from Magnum taste better than from bottle, so why not take up the chance to find out yourself by cellaring this excellent range of châteaux. Built for the long term and to impress, these are just great fun, you'll not regret it!

- Château Angludet, Margaux
- Château du Domaine de l'Eglise, Pomerol
- Château Batailley, 5e cru classé Pauillac
- Château Les Ormes de Pez, Saint-Estèphe

12 magnums (3 of each) £685.50



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