



2015 Bordeaux Subskription

Rottweil, 25. November 2017

Sehr geehrte Kunden, liebe Weinfreunde,



natürlich haben die Bordelaiser einen großen Jahrgang herbeigesehnt. Und natürlich hätten sie das gerne jedes Jahr. Aber mit 2015 hat es für viele Châteaux geklappt. Mehrfach vergab ich meine persönliche Bestnote von 19,5+-20. Aber es gab auch etliche weniger gut gelungene Weine. 2015 ist somit kein homogener Jahrgang wie 2009 oder 2010. Aber die besten stehen diesen beiden „Jahrhundertjahrgängen“ in nichts nach. Auch wenn die Stilistik eine andere ist. Viele Oenologen und Châteaubesitzer, mit denen ich gesprochen habe, nennen 2015 einen stilistischen Mix aus 2005 und 2010. Erfreulicherweise gibt es tolle Weine nicht nur in der obersten Preisliga, sondern auch bei den Cru Bourgeois und etlichen Weinen unter EUR 30,--. Für mich stellt sich die Frage in diesem Jahr nicht nach rechter oder linker Seite, Merlot oder Cabernet, Margaux oder Pauillac. Die erreichte Qualität war eine Frage des Terroirs und des Winzers/Oenologen.

Auf den folgenden Seiten finden Sie eine große Auswahl an empfehlenswerten Bordeaux. Wie immer, finden Sie zu Ihrer Orientierung neben meinen eigenen Notizen auch weitere von Kritikern aus USA, GB, IT und CH.

Sollten Sie den einen oder anderen Wein in meiner Liste vermissen, so senden Sie mir einfach eine mail. Gerne bemühe ich mich um Ihren Wein.

Trotz meines überaus positiven Eindruck des Jahrgangs war ich doch etwas erstaunt über die sehr hohen Bewertungen von James Suckling. Aber verkostet er nicht seit über 30 Jahren? Früher für den Winespectator und seit einigen Jahren in eigenem Auftrag. Ich bin überzeugt, er kann das. Und wer bin ich, dass ich es mir erlauben würde, für Sie zu

entscheiden, welche Bewertungen für Sie relevant sind und welche nicht.

James Suckling „...The 2015 vintage is an extremely exciting year for Bordeaux, producing wines with exuberant fruit character and plenty of tannin backbone to give them form and tension. They have a unique ripe fruit character that remains cool and fresh. This is not the case for all Bordeaux, however, due to complications with interspersed rains in August, September, and October, and it was particularly difficult for wineries north of the appellation of Margaux. Yet, most of the top names made outstanding wines due to meticulous viticulture and harvesting methods as well as judicious winemaking. The vintage is not very homogenous. Some châteaux made wines better than 2009 or 2010. Others made wines like their 1996 or 2004. Some respected names (Médoc) produced wines less good than in 2014. Small producers in the Right Bank made wines as good or better than highly regarded ones. But it's fascinating all the same.

To make the best wines, producers needed to extract less during fermentations and macerations and use less new wood in general. It was all about making wines in 2015 with finesse and length - real Bordeaux. It seems that is the aim of most winemakers with their 2015s. Let's see how the wines improve in barrel over the next 12 to 14 months.

Merlot-based wines are amazing quality and the highlights of my tastings of about 750 wines over three weeks in Bordeaux. The best appellations are Pomerol and St. Emilion, although Pessac-Léognan and Margaux follow closely behind. Lots of smaller appellations also excelled including Lalande-de-Pomerol and Fronsac. Top châteaux in the Médoc in general made very high quality wines despite some problems with rain before the harvest and at the end. But wineries north of Margaux had to contend with a lot more rain than other parts. I can't think of another vintage that produced wines like this in my career as a wine critic, spanning 33 vintages of Bordeaux from barrel. It is not in the league of such great recent years as 2010 or 2009, or even 2005. In those vintages, it was an across-the-board success and the grape growing season was great everywhere in Bordeaux.

But it's another outstanding vintage for Bordeaux. It's one I am going to buy myself, because of the unique quality of so many wines. So many exciting wines were made - red, dry white and sweet. Some wines are the

estate's best ever. There's something in the best wines that remind me of the great wines of the 1980s such as 1982 or 1989 that I tasted from barrel as a young wine critic/journalist. They have a neoclassical style not emphasizing massive concentration or wood but length and balance with strength.



René Gabriel schreibt: „...für mich ist 2015 ein Blend zwischen 80 % vom Jahrgang 2005 und 20 % vom 2010er.

Also Friede – Freude – Eierkuchen?

Leider nicht ganz. Um den Bordeaux 2015 generell als ganz grossen Jahrgang einzustufen müssten nämlich verschiedenste Bedingungen erfüllt sein...

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn die Grundkategorien «weiss», «rot» und «süss» Topweine abliefern. Das ist heuer ganz sicher der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn sowohl am linken Ufer (Médoc und Graves) wie auch am rechten Ufer (Libournais) gleichwertige Spitzenqualitäten zu finden sind. Das ist heuer ebenfalls der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn die Zweitweine zwar logischerweise weniger Konzentration aufweisen, jedoch trotzdem viel Aromatik vom Grand Vin reflektieren. Das ist heuer nicht der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn das mögliche Klassement integer ist und die teuersten Weine klar vor den etwas günstigeren Mitkonkurrenten liegen. Das ist heuer nicht ganz der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn sich sämtliche der wichtigsten Appellationen auf hohem Qualitätsniveau befinden. Das war heuer nicht der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn auch

bescheidenere Lagen tolle Weine abliefern. Auch das war leider nicht der Fall.

Ein ganz grosser Jahrgang ist es jeweils, wenn es ganz viele grossartige Weine zu vermelden gibt. Und das stimmt beim Bordeaux 2015 ganz sicher!

Die Summe der bestbewerteten Weine reflektieren einen ganz grossen Jahrgang. Das ist unbestritten. Ich glaube auch, dass sich die vielleicht momentan nicht im Rampenlicht stehenden Crus sehr gut entwickeln werden und zu tollen Werten heranreifen.

Rotwein-Bilanz: 7 Weine mit 20/20 / 40 Weine mit 19/20 / 91 Weine mit 18/20 / 170 Weine mit 17/20, plus weitere...“



Nun wünschen auch wir Ihnen viel Spaß bei Ihrer Auswahl.

Mit den besten Wünschen

Ihre & Ihr

Nina & Michael Grimm

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BV= M. Grimm - Bacchus Vinothek / ♥= besondere Empfehlung

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k.B. = keine Bewertung

Château	Klassifikation	BV	EUR/FI. netto	EUR/FI. brutto
Notizen von Michael Grimm + zusätzliche Bewertungen				

Bordeaux & Bordeaux Superieur

Domaine de Cambes		18+	32,35	38,50
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Extrem würzige Frucht, Kirschfrucht, toll, komplex, spicy, sexy, sehr gute Struktur, lang.

Neal Martin (89-91): „...The 2015 Domaine de Cambes, from François Mitjavile of Tertre Rôteboeuf, has an extremely pure bouquet: vibrant, almost shimmering red and black fruit with superb tension, a touch of rose petal in the background. The palate is soft and rounded on the entry, a touch of sea salt on the tip of the tongue, moderate weight in the mouth with pencil lead notes infusing the black fruit towards the sedate finish. I can imagine this drinking after 2-3 years, but as a recent vertical proved, Domaine de Cambes has a propensity to give a decade's worth of drinking pleasure, so don't be afraid of laying this down“

Antonio Galloni (88-91): „...François Mitjavile insists that the 2015 Domaine des Cambes is not a second wine. Fair enough. Unctuous, racy and exotic, the 2015 offers up a compelling mélange of crème de cassis and black cherry fruit. Domaine des Cambes is made predominantly from Merlot and a dollop of Cabernet Franc grown on the lower slopes of the property, exactly where the ripeness of the vintage is most accentuated. Today the volatile acidity is a bit pronounced and the wine needs time to come together, but it is full of personality and super-distinctive. What else is new?“

Agassac

Cru Bourgeois

18,5+

12,56

14,95

Das Bild rechts zeigt die Lichtinstallation während der Fête de la Fleur auf Chateau Agassac im Jahre 2004.

Seit Jean-Luc Zell Direktor auf Agassac ist, hat sich enorm viel getan. Er hat umfangreiche Bodenuntersuchungen angestrengt, Merlot wurde gerodet, wo er nicht hingehörte, und durch Cabernet Sauvignon ersetzt. Seit 2003 sind die Cabernets im Ertrag und Agassac ist in manchen Jahren ein „kleiner“ Cru Classé. Kein Wunder. Die Weinberge grenzen an das 3ème Cru Classé Château La Lagune. Mit dem Jahrgang 2015 beginnend, hat Jean-Luc die Produktion um 50% reduziert. Statt 15.000 Kisten werden nur noch ca. 7.500 erzeugt. Weltweit! Und trotzdem blieb der Preis auf einem für einen so großartigen Cru Bourgeois auf niedrigem Niveau.

Seit 2014 ist **Stephane Derenoncourt** (Berater für Canon La Gaffeliere, Pavie Macquin, Larcis Ducasse und viel große Namen mehr) auch Berater für Agassac. Vielleicht ist der 2015er deshalb so großartig gelungen? Auf der Derenoncourt-Verkostung La Grappe auf La Gaffeliere war das erste Muster 2015 Agassac aber nicht in Ordnung. Kork und erste Oxidationsspuren. Jean-Luc öffnete eine weitere Flasche und diese war großartig. Siehe hierzu meine Notiz. Jean-Luc bestätigte, dass die Korkcharge für die Musterflaschen offensichtlich fehlerhaft war und viele Flaschen dieses Korkproblem hatten. Was für ein Pech. Viele Verkoster werden deshalb wohl keine Notizen veröffentlichen. Ich ließ mir nochmals Muster senden und die Verkostung bestätigte den positiven Eindruck meiner Verkostung.

80% Cabernet. Ganz klassische Bordeauxnase, fruchtig, erdig, mineralisch, am Gaumen sehr große Finesse und Balance, sehr saftig, blaubeerig, sehr fein, lang mit tollen Tanninen. Nachverkostung in Rottweil: Sehr schöne, reife Frucht, Kirschen, Pflaumen, blaubeerig, sehr elegant, sehr gute Säure, langes Finale.

Neal Martin (88-90): „...The 2015 d'Agassac has a commendable bouquet with ample blackberry and wild strawberry fruit that is neatly integrated with the oak. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chewy tannin, but good depth and body with a punchy, blackberry and cedar finish that does the trick. Give this a couple of years in bottle and you will have a very decent Haut-Médoc“

James Suckling (90-91): „...This is structured and rich with blueberry and cherry aromas and flavors. Full body, spicy and long“

DECANTER (89): „...Very well-expressed fruit of good depth, character and charm. Always a classy wine. Drinking Window:2019-2026“



Lamothe Bergeron

18,5

11,68

13,90

Sehr schöne, klare Frucht, tolle Balance, Finesse, alles in Harmonie, sehr schöne Kirschen am Gaumen, Süße am Gaumen, tolle Tannine.

Haben Sie noch einige Flaschen vom 1996er im Keller? Sie Glücklicher!! Das war der erste Jahrgang von Lamothe-Bergeron, den wir einkauften. Und der bisher beste. Ein Riesenwein für einen Cru Bourgeois. In den letzten Jahren war die Qualität eher schwankend. Doch seit nun Hubert de Boüard de Laforest (Chateau Angelus) die oenologische Beratung übernommen hat, scheint es ganz steil nach oben zu gehen. Für mich einer der drei besten Cru Bourgeois, die ich verkostet habe. Und sollten Sie keinen 96er mehr haben, unbedingt was in Keller legen.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Intensives, schier wuchtiges Bouquet, hoch reife Frucht, Black-Currantnoten. Im Gaumen saftig und kräftig zugleich, hat einen guten Rückhalt, sowie auch bourgeoise Konturen. Neuer Besitzer. Weingut im Aufwind?“

Potensac

Cru Bourgeois

17,5-18+

19,92

23,70

Der Cru Bourgeois aus dem Delon-Stall (Leoville las Cases, Nenin,..) zeigt eine sehr schöne, dicke Nase, viel Frische, sehr schöne Frucht und Frische, blaubeerig, gute Struktur. Best Buy !

René Gabriel - 16/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Feine Röstnoten, Kirschen, florale Züge. Im Gaumen eher leicht und elegant wirkend, aber auch mit gewissen Tanninmuskeln aufwartend, welche nach Flaschenreife verlangen werden. Kann noch zulegen“

Neal Martin (89-91): „...The 2015 Potensac is a blend of 45% Merlot, 38% Cabernet Sauvignon and 17% Cabernet Franc that was cropped at 50 hl/ha, and raised in one-third new oak. There is a sense of airiness on the nose: small dark cherries, crème de cassis and crushed strawberry, pretty and nicely focused. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannin, fresh and citrus in style, just a touch of reduction towards the finish, but they will blow off by the time it is in bottle. I would have just preferred more persistence on the finish, but otherwise this is a decent Potensac.“

James Suckling (90-91): „...Lots of mineral and stone aromas and flavors with blackberry and blueberry aromas. Full and very fine texture. Well made for the vintage considering the moisture in Northern Médoc“

Wine-Spectator (90-93): „...An austere style, offering a frame of warm stone around the core of currant and bitter cherry flavors, with tangy minerality through the finish. Perhaps not as broad as some of its peers, but with good cut, drive and focus“

Cantemerle

5ème Cru Classe

17,5+

23,44

27,90

Schwarzbeerig, schwarze Kirschen, warme Frucht, spicy, dann erstaunlich schlank, sehr trocken.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Offenes, würziges, leicht blättrig wirkendes Bouquet, knapp reife Frucht anzeigend. Eleganter, sich eher leicht anfühlender Gaumen, angenehm endend. Ist zwar immer noch nicht das Gelbe vom Ei - aber so gut war er schon lange nicht mehr“

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

James Suckling (95-96): „...Wow. Real Cantemerle with stupendous power and depth. Mineral, stone and violet character. Full and structure. It starts slowly and then goes on for minutes. Perhaps best ever?

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...Fresh, with a good sanguine note weaving around red currant and bitter cherry flavors. There's a stony echo developing on the finish“

Antonio Galloni (86-88): „...The 2015 Cantemerle is ripe, juicy and forward, with good overall depth and plenty of juiciness. Sweet red cherry, new oak, herb, blood orange, anise and earthy notes wrap around the fleshy, inviting finish. This is an especially racy, forward style, but there is good tannic grip as well.“

DECANTER (90): „...Fine expression of fruit with elegance and class, This is never a big wine but it has fine natural depth and harmony“

Moulis & Listrac

Mauvesin-Barton



Cru Bourgeois

17,5+-18

12,60 15,00

Sehr schöne, knackige, helle Frucht, ganz clean, sehr elegant, gute Balance, lang mit soften Tanninen, hellere Kirschen, sehr fein.

Als mir Lilian Barton 2011 mitteilte, dass es künftig auch einen Cru Bourgeois mit der Handschrift derer von Barton geben würde, war ich gespannt. Und tatsächlich haben die Bartons hier ein Kleinod für sich und uns entdeckt. Mit dem Know How ihrer beiden 2ème und 3ème Cru Classes in Julien erweckten sie Mauvesin aus dem Dornröschenschlaf. Die Investitionen waren enorm aber haben sich gelohnt. Mauvesin-Barton wird Jahr für Jahr besser. Und wie lange es gedauert hat, bis Mauvesin auf dem Schirm der Weinliebhaber auftauchte. Oder hatten Sie früher schon einmal von diesem Chateau gehört?? Die Gründung des Chateau geht auf das Jahr 1457 zurück. Das heutige Chateau-Gebäude wurde 1853 gebaut. Und eigentlich war von der bescheidenen Familie Barton nicht geplant, den prestigeträchtigen Namen an Mauvesin anzuhängen. Aber geschäftstüchtige Chinesen hatten sich Chateau Mauvesin als „Marke“ eintragen lassen. Also hängt man halt doch Barton an, um Strafzahlungen für den Vertrieb des eigenen Weines zu vermeiden. Sachen gibt's?? Gemanagt wird Chateau Mavesin-Barton von Melanie Barton-Sartorius, der Tochter von Lilian und Michel Barton-Sartorius.

René Gabriel - 16/20: „...Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Frisches Bouquet, Fliedernoten, Brombeerblüten, dezent kühle Ausstrahlung. Im Gaumen fein und elegant, gut balanciert und so gut wie

noch nie. Zwar kein Reisser - aber immerhin auf dem Wege immer besser zu werden“

Neal Martin (88-90): „...The 2015 Mauvesin Barton is a blend of 42% Merlot, 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot, the first vintage that Mélanie Barton-Sartorius was "on her own" to make the wine. It has a straightforward raspberry and wild strawberry-scented bouquet, a little more tertiary in style than its peers, but with good definition. The palate is medium-bodied with light tannin, perhaps somewhat rustic in style compared to its peers, with a savory finish that needs to develop more persistence on the finish. This is a fine Moulis, although I think there is better to come“

Antonio Galloni (86-88): „...The 2015 Mauvesin Barton is a very pretty wine. Sweet red cherry, cranberry, rose petal and mint are all nicely delineated. Bright, floral and lifted throughout, the Mauvesin Barton shows the more delicate, gracious side of the vintage“

DECANTER (87): „...Fresh, floral fruit: a light wine from young vines but showing lift and charm“

St.-Estéphe

Capbern

17,5+-18

15,13 18,00

Fruchtig, süßsaure Kirschen, feine floreale Töne, Veilchen, am Gaumen sehr schöne Süße und schöner Schmelz, kräftige Tannine, Mitte und Finale etwas schlank.

Neal Martin (88-90): „...The 2015 Capbern (formerly Capbern Gasqueton) is a blend of 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, to be matured in 60% new oak over the next 18 months. This is the first time that Petit Verdot has been included in the blend from new plantings, around ten-years-old now. It has a crisp blackberry and bilberry scented bouquet, quite linear, a floral aspect emerging after a couple of minutes in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with quite a structured opening, a decidedly more masculine Capbern Gasqueton in the making, with a slight tinniness towards the finish. Give this 3-4 years in bottle for the jaggedness in those tannins to soften“



James Suckling (90-91): „...Very fine and polished with lovely integration and finesse. Medium to full body, fresh finish. Harmony here“

Wine-Spectator (86-89): „...Damson plum and bitter cherry notes are lined with savory and tobacco hints. Fresh, though a little shy on stuffing through the finish“

Antonio Galloni (88-89): „...The 2015 Capbern is striking. Pliant, open-knit and seductive, the 2015 offers lovely radiance and superb balance, especially at this level. Black cherry, plum, mint and violet notes are laced into the aromatic, silky finish. There is so much to like in this forward, fruit-driven Saint-Estèphe. The blend is 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot.“

DECANTER (90): “...Great freshness of bountiful, ripe fruit and fine ripeness from 68% Cabernet. A lovely wine from perfectly managed vineyards”

Phélan Ségur

Cru Bourgeois

17,5-18

33,53 39,90

Kühle, frische Frucht, Mandeln, reif bis leicht überreifen Nuancen auch im Finale, Sauerkirschen, softe Mitte, Struktur fehlt mir etwas, trocken.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. 53 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 47 % Merlot. Im Gegensatz zu den anderen grossen Saint-Estèphe-Crus hat man hier rund eine Woche später geerntet. Viel Kirschentöne im ersten Ansatz, leicht tintiger Untergrund, gibt sich recht tief im ersten Ansatz. Beim zweiten Kontakt kommen

CHÂTEAU

Phélan Ségur

florale Noten zum Zug und Heidelbeeren. Samtiger Fluss, sehr weiche Konturen, aber er zeigt eine tolle Konzentration. Da ist Munition drin! Das Finale nachhaltig. Kein hochfeiner Phélan, aber einer mit gewissem Charakter“

Neal Martin (91-93): „...The 2015 Phelan Segur, a blend of 53%

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

James Suckling (93-94): „...A full-bodied red with very dense and chewy tannins. Very persistent and intense. Very fine textured. One of the best Phelans ever?”

Wine-Spectator (88-91): “...This offers a good core of dark currant and bitter cherry notes, with hints of warm stone and tobacco filling in on the finish. Shows solid grip.”

Antonio Galloni (89-92): „...The 2015 Phélan Ségur is one of the most impressive wines I have tasted here in a number of years. It is also a wine that developed considerably over the two weeks I followed it. Early tastings suggested a deep, powerful Saint-Estèphe, but over the course of a week, the aromatics and finesse seemed to become more apparent. Beautifully ripe, silky tannins wrap around a core of expressive dark red cherry, plum and exotic spices. The decision to pick on the late side certainly was right on the money. This is a pretty and promising wine from the team at Phélan Ségur“.

DECANTER (90): “...Has the smooth, slightly gamey fruit you'd expect from Phélan-Ségur. Very good vineyard expression and fine, elegant length.“

Calon Segur

3ème Cru Classé

18,5-19+

67,14 79,90

Dichte, fleischige Frucht, blaubeerig, schöne hellere Früchte, Kirschen, feine spice-Note, am Gaumen schöne Struktur, elegant sehr elegant, Schoko, fast etwas Zinfandel-Würze, sehr fein, lang, große Balance, knackig, frisch, sehr gute Tannine. Wird aufgrund seiner Finesse vielleicht von manchen Verkostern unterschätzt.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...82 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 16 % Merlot, 2 % Petit Verdot. Eine frühe Ernte. Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Schlank wirkendes, floral-frisches Bouquet, dunkler Beerenton, Rosenblätter, vielschichtig mit mittlerem Druck im Ansatz. Im Gaumen ein Finessenpaket sondergleichen, hoch feine Tannine, integrierte Säure und eine ganz feine Stofftextur über der Zunge zeigend. Vielleicht unterschätzt man diesen Wein gerade aus diesem Grund. Er wirkt irgendwie lautlos in seiner bescheidenen Art. Aber in 20 Jahren wird er seine Ketzer strafen. Ein önologisches Violinkonzert! Auf alle Fälle merkt man seinen Ausbau in 100 % neuen Barriquen gar nicht“

Neal Martin (91-93): „...The 2015 Calon Segur is a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot (no Cabernet Franc in the Grand Vin this year). It was picked from 8 September until 5 October at a yield of 47 hl/ha and is matured in 100% new oak for the next 20 months. The Cabernet Sauvignon dominates the aromatics with blackberry, cedar and graphite aromas: quite linear, nicely focused and reserved compared to the 2014 last year. The palate is understated on the entry, the tannin very fine and the acidity very well judged. Like the nose, the Cabernet drives this wine forward: structured and a little "brittle" in the mouth, perhaps the most Pauillac-like Calon-Segur that I have encountered over many years of tasting. Afford this several years in bottle“

James Suckling (93-94): „...This is very fine and integrated with black currant, walnut and fresh tobacco. Full body, pretty polish. Sophisticated. Well done for the vintage for this appellation“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): “...A solid effort, with plum and dark cherry fruit showing the fleshier side of the vintage. Shows silky tannins underneath and a pleasant tobacco edge on the finish”

Antonio Galloni (90-93): „...The 2015 Calon Ségur is super-polished, silky and exceptionally beautiful, especially for the vintage and appellation. Creamy, expressive and inviting, the 2015 possesses striking nuance and delineation throughout. Dark blue and purplish fruits, lavender, herbs, menthol and licorice add the closing shades of nuance. I don't think the 2015 will match the superb 2014, but it is a very pretty, if somewhat smaller-scaled, wine“



DECANTER (95): "...Really lovely bouquet: totally aromatic and full of finesse and restrained power. Great charm and purity of fruit on the palate, showing lovely precision and persistence. This château continues on its progression to the top"

Montrose

2ème Cru Classé

19-19,5

116,81 139,00



Dichte, saubere, klare Frucht, dunkle Kirschen und Cassis, ganz reif und frisch, ganz große Balance, sehr gute Struktur, und Fleisch und

Finesse, lang mit ganz tollen Tanninen. Hammer-Montrose!

René Gabriel - 19/20: „...MERLOT WIE CABERNETS?“

Hervé Berland strahlte bei unserem Besuch. Er ist vor wenigen Jahren als Direktor von Mouton nach Montrose gezügelt: «Es sind nur fünf Minuten mehr Arbeitsweg, aber hier bin ich irgendwie glücklicher. Man lässt mir da mehr freie Hand», meint er und lächelt zufrieden. «Es war eine recht grosse Ernte mit rund 48 Hektoliter pro Hektare. Wir werden wohl etwa 180'000 Flaschen vom 2015er Grand Vin abfüllen können. Wichtig ist aber in erster Linie, dass wir einen grossen Montrose im Keller haben. Und das ist sicher der Fall. Die Besonderheit dieses Jahrganges ist, dass wir intern Mühe hatten den Merlot von Cabernet Sauvignon unterscheiden konnten. Das war ein noch nie dagewesenes Phänomen. Mit dem Cabernet Franc waren wir ebenfalls zufrieden. Hingegen haben wir den Petit Verdot in den Dame de Montrose deklassiert. Er wies einen zu hohen Ertrag auf und kam – im Gegensatz zu den anderen Rebsorten – etwas zu dünn daher».

67 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 29 % Merlot, 4 % Cabernet Franc. 37 % der Produktion wurde als Grand Vin selektioniert. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Intensives Bouquet, geprägt von reifem und tiefgründigem Cabernet, Trüffelspuren, Brombeeren aber auch dunkle Edelhölzer und Pumpnickelbrot, ergänzt durch Schwarzschockotöne in dazu passenden Merlots. Schon das Nasenbild hat etwas Royales an sich. Im Gaumen fest, beeindruckend, verlangend und somit eine umfassende Adstringenz zeigend, dunkles Malz, Lakritze, Szechuanpfeffer, rassig und kraftvoll. Doch er zeigt eine Harmonie an und auch seine Erhabenheit. Er klang minutenlang nach, und war noch lange präsent als ich im Auto von Montrose nach Cos fuhr. Grosses Montrose-Kino“

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

James Suckling (93-94): „...Blueberry, black currant, fresh basil and lemon grass flavors. Full body, velvety tannins, clean finish. Spices. Depth“

Antonio Galloni (90-93): „...The 2015 Montrose is silky, super-finessed and nuanced, all qualities that are unusual for a wine that is usually much more of a powerhouse. Black cherry, smoke, leather, graphite, crème de cassis and licorice notes open up in the glass, yet the wine comes across as raw and not fully formed. The 2015 appeared to put on a bit of weight over the two weeks I followed it, but I don't see the depth, structure and personality of the very best versions.“

DECANTER (96): „...Deep florality and wonderful black fruit. Surprisingly smooth and silky at first then the classic firmness becomes plain towards the finish. It has more natural richness than most in 2015 – a superbly made wine from a great terroir“.

Pauillac

Lacoste-Borie

2ème Vin du GPL

17,5+-18

20,13 23,95



Sehr schöne, saubere, klare Frucht, appetitlich, frisch, gute Balance, gute Tannine.

Neal Martin (87-89): „...The 2015 Lacoste-Borie is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. It has a slightly muted bouquet, tobacco-tinged black fruit that gently opens in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannin, foursquare in the mouth with that tobacco theme continuing. Linear, a little aloof at the moment, I would hope that more flesh can come through towards the spicy finish that cuts away a little swiftly“

James Suckling (90-91): „...Soft and silky second wine of Grand Puy Lacost. Medium to full body, juicy fruit and a velvety tannic finish“

DECANTER (89): „...Lovely bright fruit, with the freshness of 60% Cabernet bringing elegance and lift. Lovely for mid-term drinking“.

Cabernet bringing elegance and lift. Lovely for mid-term drinking“.

Grand Puy Lacoste**5ème Cru Classé****19-19,5****57,06 67,90**

Sehr schöne, reife, warme Frucht, ganz fein, sehr gute Struktur, knackig, Kirschen, tolle aromatische Nase, Kaffee, frisch, gute Säure, sehr elegant, sehr gute Balance und Struktur, viel Charme, weniger Power als sehr viel Finesse und Frische, toll!

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...74 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 23 % Merlot, 3 % Cabernet Franc. Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Absolut delikates Bouquet, Damassinepflaumen, Cassis und feine Kräuternoten, sehr vielschichtig. Im Gaumen ist der Wein fast zärtlich mit seinem homogenen, reifen Fluss, strahlt eine wunderschöne Cabernetsüsse aus und endet verführerisch und so delikate wie er begonnen hat. Ein seidiger, zärtlicher Pauillac, der aber nicht zu unterschätzen ist. Hier kann man gar einen Punkt mehr erwarten in seiner Reife“

Neal Martin (94-96): „...The 2015 Grand-Puy-Lacoste, 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc, matured in 75% new oak and was picked between September 18 until October 4 (although the "real" picking commenced from September 21). Now, Grand-Puy-Lacoste is often quite "aloof" at this early juncture, but that is not the case with the 2015. This is more approachable aromatically, beautifully defined, thanks to that expressive Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin and finely tuned acidity (pH 3.68). Beguilingly harmonious in the mouth, it boasts a silky smooth texture with wonderful salinity on the aftertaste that is sustained in the mouth. As usual, Xavier Borie has produced a "classic" Pauillac, but one that is a little more appealing to those that don't want to cellar for 20-30 years. You could describe the 2015 as being between 2009 and 2010...and that, folks, is not a bad place to be“

James Suckling (94-95): „...This is very fine and elegant GPL with black currant and hints of walnuts, chocolate. Full body, sweet and pretty tannins. Persistent. So polished“

Wine-Spectator (91-94): „...Pure, sleek and minerally today, with chalk and iron driving the core of red currant and damson plum fruit. The fruit is steadily emerging, and the length is there. Textbook Pauillac“

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

DECANTER (94): „...Very good fragrance and florality – the typical slatey, stony Grand-Puy-Lacoste style shows even more precision and grip than usual, with wonderful middle fruit richness. Will make a really classic claret“

Pontet Canet**5ème Cru Classé****19+****88,24 105,00**

Sehr, sehr schöne, reife, warme Frucht, dunkle Kirschen und Cassis, am Gaumen soft mit großer Balance, Charme, Frische, blaubeerig am Gaumen und wieder Cassis, lang, tolle Tannine.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Recht offenes, ausladendes Bouquet, delikate Zedernholnoten, Kaffee, Backpflaumen, zeigt eine schöne Terroirsüsse an. Im Gaumen mit einem kernig-pfeffrigen Extrakt aufwartend, hat Adstringenz und weist eine gesunde Tannin-Adstringenz auf. Er hat etwa gleich viel Muskeln wie Fleisch und wird einen klassischen, vielleicht gar etwas traditionell anmutenden, geduldigen Pontet-Canet abgeben“

Neal Martin (94-96): „...The 2015 Pontet Canet was tasted on two occasions around two weeks apart and I noticed a superior showing the second time around. This year is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot that was picked from 18 September apropos the Merlot and from 28 September for the Cabernet, finishing on 3 October. It is matured in 50% new oak, 35% concrete and 15% one-year-old barrels. It has a pure and perfumed bouquet with small dark cherries, red plum and subtle violet scents, perhaps a little Margaux-like in style, the second showing demonstrating a little more red fruit character. The palate is medium-bodied with a slightly grainy texture on the entry. There is nicely judged acidity here, moderate depth, very supple tannin that lend this a silky texture. There is modest weight towards the second half, perhaps spicier than some of its Pauillac peers with an edgy, lightly peppered finish. It is an intriguing and complex, almost mercurial Pontet-Canet, a wine that I suspect will gain more weight during its élevage. Afford this 5-8 years in bottle and you should have a delicious, intellectual Pontet-Canet on your hands“

James Suckling (97-98): „...This is very fine and silky with a beautiful vivid blackberry and blueberry character. Super polished tannins. Refined and very, very long. Fabulous harmony to this young wine. Very classic Bordeaux. Superb depth and length. Real Bordeaux.“

Antonio Galloni (95-98): „...One of the wines of the vintage, the 2015 Pontet-Canet oozes class, finesse and pure pedigree. A hypothetical combination of the 2010 (for its dark fruit and tannic structure) and the 2009 (for its voluptuous fruit), the 2015 offers remarkable intensity, power and grace. A host of exotic floral and spice notes wrap around the dark, racy finish. In a word: magnificent“

DECANTER (96): „...Deep, velvety texture on the palate and wild flowers on the nose; unctuous yet firm with pristine clarity. A great wine by any standards – and the standards of Alfred Tesseron for his biodynamic vineyards and amphora-matured wine are magnificently evident.“

Duhart Milon Rothschild**4ème Cru Classé****17,5-18****56,22 66,90**

Reife, etwas offene Nase, süß-sauer, Sauerkirschsafft, im Finish dann erst süß dann sauer und dann viele Tannine.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...73 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 27 % Merlot. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Erdig-süßes Bouquet, erstaunlich viel Malznoten zeigend, ein Hauch von Dörrfrüchten und Earl-Grey-Noten. Im Gaumen für einmal eher elegant daherkommend, feine Muskeln zeigend, im Finale Tabak und Trüffelspuren, sowie süßliche Korinthennuancen. Er scheint vielleicht recht früh Freude zu bereiten. Ohne dabei viel Potential einzubüssen. Er wurde allgemein gerühmt“

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 Duhart Milon is a blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot picked between September 23 and October 6, the September 17-23 respectively. It will eventually see 40% new oak during its élevage. It has a tightly-wound bouquet with blackberry, bilberry and cassis fruit, moderate complexity, perhaps just a little static at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with quite supple tannin for the normally obdurate Duhart-Milon, the acidity nicely judged with a pleasing salinity towards the finish. I would just like to see more personality come through by the time of bottling. Otherwise, this is a fine Duhart-Milon that is more compromising than the tannic "beasts" of yesteryear, and it should drink after 5-7 years in bottle“

James Suckling (91-92): „...firm and silky red with blackberry and chocolate character. Hints of walnut. Full and chewy. Fresh finish“

Antonio Galloni (90-92): „...The 2015 Duhart-Milon is soft, open-knit and expressive, with gorgeous dark red and purplish fruit pushed forward and pretty spiced notes that add complexity. Medium in body and gracious, the 2015 should drink nicely with minimal cellaring. This is a very pretty, understated Duhart. The blend is 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot“

DECANTER (92): “...Fine, firm 73% Cabernet fruit with a brambly middle ripeness from 27% Merlot. Shows polish, depth and a restrained elegance – a firm, classy wine with a fine future.”

Pichon Comtesse Lalande **2ème Cru Classé** **18,5+-19+** **113,45 135,00**
Sehr schöne, reife Frucht, Kirschen, Cassis, Mandeln, am Gaumen große Eleganz zeigend, frische Säure, feine Bitterschoko.



René Gabriel - 20/20: „...EIN JAHRHUNDERTWEIN MIT «LANGEM PLÂTEAU»

René Gabriel: «Was ist der Unterschied zwischen dem bereits sensationellen 2014er und diesem 2015er?»

Nicolas Glumineau: «Wir haben da von allem noch ein Bisschen mehr drin; Dichte, Tiefe, Tannin und auch Intensität».

Gabriel: «Ist er noch besser als 2009 oder 2010?»

Glumineau: «Vielleicht nicht besser, aber anders. Respektive genauso wie ein ganz grosser Pichon-Lalande sein soll. Eine perfekte Symbiose zwischen vollem Pauillac und tollem Pichon-Lalande».

Gabriel: «Gibt es genug Flaschen für die Freaks?»

Glumineau: «Es war eine recht schöne Erntemenge bei der

wir viel Grand Vin selektionieren konnten. Für die heutige Zeit ist es viel. Wir hatten – vor meiner Zeit – früher auch schon Ernten bei dem es doppelt so viel ergab wie heuer. Zugegeben auch bei weniger berauschender Qualität».

Gabriel: «Und wann wird dieser 2015 seine beste Zeit erreichen?»

Glumineau: «Ich schätze den Genussbeginn ab 2027 ein mit einem langen Plâteau».

Gabriel: «Plâteau???»

Glumineau: «Ja - Plâteau. Dummerweise definieren viele Weingeniesser die Genussreife mit einem Peak, also mit einer Spitze. Ein grosser Bordeaux kommt irgendwann mal in die Genussreife und liefert dann sehr lange, manchmal Jahrzehnte lang ein maximales Trinkvergnügen. Auch wenn er sich dabei von Frucht- zu Terroiraromen bewegt. Also kann man da definitiv von einem Plâteau sprechen!»

68 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 29 % Merlot, 2 % Cabernet Franc, 1 % Petit Verdot. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Reifes, komplexes Bouquet, mit vielen dunklen Beeren und mit schwarzen Schokonoten unterlegt. Im zweiten Ansatz einen ganz minimen Hauch von Dörrfrüchten, erste Zedern- und Tabaknoten zeigend. Im Gaumen füllig, eine reife, intensive Adstringenz aufweisend, Heidelbeeren und Black-Currantnoten, unglaublich viel Aromendruck im schier bulligen Finale vermittelnd. Mit Lafite der beste Pauillac! Also verdient auch er die Maximalnote. Wie schon im Letzten Jahr. Also ist der Pichon-Lalande in den letzten Jahren auf absolutem Höhenflug. Es war der letzte Wein im Union des Grands Cru Tasting auf Lafon-Rochet. Also konnte ich ihn sehr gut mit seiner Konkurrenz vergleichen. Das Ding hat mich schier umgehauen. Am anderen Tag habe ich ihn nochmals auf dem Gut nachverkostet. Das ist unglaublich viel Aromatik drin und er hat auch schöne Reserven“

Neal Martin (95-97): „...The 2015 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is a blend of 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot that was picked from 10 September with the young Merlot, finishing on 9 October. It includes 12.5% vin de presse (which incidentally was included in the blend). It has a very pure bouquet with expressive Merlot imparting black cherries and wild strawberry aromas that are embroidered with a thread of graphite. I noticed how it errs more towards black fruit with extended aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannin on the entry, the Cabernet Sauvignon here in the driving seat despite that level of Merlot trying to get in a look. Together they give a sense of completeness to this Pichon Lalande that has semblances towards the great 1996. Whereas this Pauillac has a tendency to be more approachable than others, in fact, the 2015 has the backbone and substance to suggest that it will require a minimum of ten years' ageing, but patience will be amply rewarded. Nicolas Glumineau has overseen a quite brilliant Pichon Lalande here.“

James Suckling (96-97): „...This is absolutely beautiful with super tannin quality that gives you the most silky texture. Precise. It goes for minutes. Full and concentrated yet all in balance“

Wine-Spectator (94-97): “...This has excellent energy, featuring voluptuous blackberry and black currant fruit lined with cassis bush, bay leaf, wet stone and iron notes, with sweet tobacco filling in the background. The finish is broad and long, with a nice graphite edge. This is Pauillac”

Antonio Galloni (96-98): „...A dazzling, towering wine, the 2015 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande has put on considerable weight in just the last few months. Today, the 2015 is vivid and intense, with a huge backbone of tannin and marvelous

complexity. In 2015, the Cabernet Sauvignon is pushed higher as the Merlot was less consistent in its ripening. Graphite, charcoal, tobacco, crème de cassis and new leather are some of the signatures in what is shaping up to be a super-classic Pichon-Lalande. Simply put, the 2015 is one of the wines of the vintage.“

DECANTER (92): “...Fragrance and depth on the nose but a sense of over-ripeness puts it out of step with the vintage at the moment – even with the Comtesse lift and freshness. But time will probably be on its side”

Mouton-Rothschild

1er Cru Classé 18,5+19+

499,16 594,00



Saubere, klare Frucht, Mandeln, sehr gute Struktur, schlank, elegant, viel Finesse, schlankes Finish mit kräftigen, guten Tanninen.

René Gabriel - 19/20: „...82 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 16 % Merlot, 2 % Cabernet Franc. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Das Bouquet beginnt genauso wie ein Mouton sein soll; röstig, reife Pflaumen, Cassis, Schwarztee und ein Hauch Minze. Insgesamt nasal einen schier parfümierten Cabernet zeigend. Im Gaumen mit einer berausenden Pauillac-Süsse aufwartend, wieder pflaumig und jetzt noch mehr deutliche Cassispuren dokumentierend, tolle Extraktion, aromatisches Finale. Kein Hammer-Mouton, sondern dieses Jahr auf Eleganz und Balance setzend. Irgendwie glaubt man da auch eine tendenzielle frühe Genussmöglichkeit zu spüren, ohne dass dabei Potential eingebüsst wird“

Neal Martin (97-99): „...The 2015 Mouton-Rothschild is a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc matured entirely in new oak, as usual. This represents a relatively high percentage of Merlot simply because , as winemaker Philippe Dhalluin told me, that quality was so good. I afforded my sample four to five minutes to open as it was a little reduced at first, but eventually it reveals a gorgeous, extraordinarily intense bouquet of blackberry, cassis, incense and cold slate aromas. In some ways it reminds me of Latour as much as Mouton Rothschild. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, perfectly pitched acidity, wonderful tension and impressive

length. There is a strong graphite theme running through from start to finish that is little grainy and so it will require preferably a decade in cellar. But what freshness and panache here, a classic Mouton-Rothschild that will live for 50 or 60 years, not a million miles away from say, the 1986 or 2010. Expect this to settle at the top of my banded score once in bottle“

James Suckling (96-97): „...Very racy and refined with super polished tannins and focused dark fruits. Blackberry, orange peel, and black currants. Full. Very long and thought-provoking. A wine that delivers power and finesse. Juicy and fresh“

Antonio Galloni (94-97): „...A bold, dramatic wine, the 2015 Mouton-Rothschild sweeps across the palate with remarkable depth. Seemingly endless layers seem to open as the 2015 fills out its broad, ample frame. The tannins are silky and creamy, which give the 2015 much of its voluptuous, inviting personality, while the finish is both remarkably vivid and persistent. This is an especially dark, powerful Mouton.“

DECANTER (98): “...My joint top wine (with Ch Margaux) of the vintage. A real firework display but still controlled. Very rich on the palate: broad yet silky, earthy yet so refined. This is Mouton at a new peak and it’s hard to imagine a better balance of elegance and power”

St.-Julien

Branaire-Ducru

4ème Cru Classé

18-18,5

43,70 52,00

Gute, würzige Frucht am Gaumen, etwas trocken und kurz. Aber insgesamt gut gelungen.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Pflaumiger Bouquetansatz, dezent laktischer Anflug, zeigt eine gute Tiefe an. Im Gaumen mit viel Kirschen aufwartend, eine leicht florale Note im Extrakt aufweisend, hat Fleisch und Potential, aromatisches Finish. Neigt zur Klassik“

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 Branaire-Ducru is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 4% Cabernet Franc that was picked between 18 September until 8 October, with two or three intervals in between. Matured in around 60% new oak (although as usual my barrel sample was from a new oak barrel), it has a high-toned, black cherry and cassis scented nose that perhaps feels a little constricted by the new wood in this sample, though not necessarily once in bottle. The palate is medium-bodied with a lightly spiced entry, white pepper and a touch of sage, gritty tannin, foursquare and a little conservative. There is commendable weight on the finish, if not quite the precision compared to its peers. I noticed this gaining more cohesion in the glass, which bodes well for once the Branaire-Ducru is in bottle. I expect this to rest at the top of my banded score“

James Suckling (93-94): „...This is very structured and tight with chewy polished tannins and blueberry, blackberry. Full and savory. Should develop beautifully“

Wine-Spectator (90-93): “...Pretty and aromatic, with flavors of kirsch and cherry preserves mixed with tobacco and bay notes. Stays energetic through the relatively sleek finish. Wins on purity”

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

DECANTER (92): “...Very good vigour of fruit and typical of the restrained elegance of this fine fourth growth, with a little more natural richness this year. Purity and length for a fine future”

Langoa Barton **3^{ème} Cru Classé** **18,5** **37,73 44,90**
Sehr süße, reife Frucht, Kirschen, komplex, Mandeln, lecker, saftig, sehr gut am Gaumen, sehr gute Struktur, Skelett, gute Tannine

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...54 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 38 % Merlot, 8 % Cabernet Franc. Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Viel Kirschentöne und ein Hauch von Cassis, Edelhölzer dahinter und Zedernnuancen. Im Gaumen mit einer ansprechenden Konzentration aufwartend, er zeigt Rückhalt und gute Anlagen, er weist vielleicht tendenziell etwas bourgeoise Konturen auf, doch das ist eigentlich ja sein Grundstil. Man darf diesen Wein in der Jugend auf keinen Fall unterschätzen“

Neal Martin (88-90): „...The 2015 Langoa Barton is a blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot and 8% Cabernet Franc picked between 19 September and 5 October, matured in 60% new oak. It has a slightly smudged bouquet at first, a mixture of red and black fruit, a little sous-bois and tobacco developing in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with gently grippy tannin, veering more towards red fruit here, but laced with tobacco and cedar notes. The finish is austere and perhaps mean at the moment, so hopefully it will develop more flesh by the time of bottling. I must confess that I cannot remember tasting Langoa next to Léoville Barton at this stage and finding such a disparity between the two wines, attested by tasting the 2014s just afterwards and finding them closer together in terms of quality“

James Suckling (92-93): „...*Very ripe and fruit with lots of mature berry and plum character. Full body, round tannins and a savory finish. Juicy*“

Wine-Spectator (90-93): „...Very fresh, with a sleek frame around bright red currant and plum notes. Shows really good cut through the finish“

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

DECANTER (92): „...Fine fragrance and fruit: shows the purity and depth of a classic vineyard with nothing exaggerated. Discreet but full of character; in perfect balance.“

Léoville-Las-Cases **2^{ème} Cru Classé** **18,5+** **158,82 189,00**
Intensive Nase, blaubeerig und vollreif+, etwas satt machend, feine Vanille, sehr elegant am Gaumen, große Balance, schlank auslaufend mit kernigem leicht trockenem Finale.

René Gabriel - 19/20: „...KLEINE MARQUISE – GROSSER LAS-CASES

Neu gibt es vom Clos du Marquis jetzt auch eine Zweitselektion unter dem Namen « La Petite Marquise». Vor ein paar Jahren wurde auf dem Weingut ja ein Zweitwein vom Las-Cases unter dem Namen «Le Petit Lion» eingeführt.

Daran ändert aber nichts, dass der 2015er ein grosser Las-Cases ist. Jean-Hubert Délon bezeichnet den Jahrgang als «sportlich-elegant».

85 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 9 % Cabernet Franc, 6 % Merlot. 39 hl/ha. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Wunderschönes, vielschichtiges Beerenbouquet, ausladend und mit pfeffriger Würze unterlegt, im Untergrund Edelhölzer und Trüffel. Im zweiten Ansatz kommt reife Banane und ein Hauch von Caramel zum Tragen, sowie viele Nuancen von Sandelholz. Im Gaumen cremig, füllig komplex, die Tannine sind reif, fett und reich und strahlen eine verführerische Süsse aus, gebündeltes, langes Finale. Ein grosser, genialer Las-Cases. Eigentlich müsste man sich diesen Wein auf die Einkaufsliste setzen. Leider gab es aber immer wieder Lancierungen, die nach der Primeurlancierung im Markt günstiger zu haben waren. So habe ich beispielsweise den Jahrgang 2006 für mich damals zu CHF 240 gekauft und bekam drei Jahre später Angebote, welche rund hundert Franken günstiger waren. Also war ich als Ambassador der Gelackmeierte“

Neal Martin (95-97): „...The 2015 Leoville Las-Cases has the highest Cabernet contents in recent years, 85% and 9% of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc respectively, partly because some of the old Merlot vines were blended into the deuxième vin. Picked between 22 September and 9 October, a total of 15 days picking, it will be matured in 85% new oak. The alcohol level is 13.8%, higher than 2010 for example. Jean-Hubert Delon has crafted an extremely pure and tensile bouquet, almost pixelated with blackberry, briary, slate and oyster shell aromas that blossom in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied, svelte and sensual on the entry, the tannins a little edgy with a gentle crescendo: black fruit, tons of minerals, real focus and precision towards the finish. This is a superlative Léoville Las-Cases with the substance to suggest long-term aging will be repaid“

James Suckling (96-97): „...*This is an ethereal young wine with blackberry and violet aromas and flavors. Full body, very firm and silky tannins and a superb finish. Lovely length and purity to this. 85% cabernet sauvignon, 6% merlot and 9% cabernet franc*“

Wine-Spectator (94-97): „...Very tightly focused, with both charcoal and iron harnessing the core of dark currant and blackberry fruit flavors. Sleek in feel, but not for lack of depth, as this is brimming with dark fruit and *terroir*, just in a more austere fashion“

Antonio Galloni (95-98): „...A vivid, mesmerizing wine, the 2015 Léoville Las Cases is stunning in its beauty. Unusually rich and sumptuous for Las Cases, the 2015 possesses magnificent intensity and power from start to finish. Blackberry jam, charcoal, smoke, licorice and asphalt are some of the many notes that take shape in the glass, but the 2015 truly stands out for its vertical structure and overall intensity. At the same time, the 2015 is an unusually ripe, exotic Las Cases with much more flesh and voluptuousness in its curves than is the norm. In that sense, the 2015, is not at all typical for Las Cases. And yet it is striking. The 14.5% alcohol is the highest recorded here“

DECANTER (96): „...At 94% (85% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Cabernet Franc) this is the highest-ever Cab content in this grand vin. Very dense at first but full of power and elegance, with lots of energy. Beautifully made, and seems more Pauillac than St-Julien. This will be a very great wine.“

Margaux

Labégorce **Cru Bourgeois** **18,5** **21,76** **25,90**
Aromatische, süße Nase, frisch, hellere Kirschen, am Gaumen sehr schöne Struktur mit kräftigen Tanninen, sehr viel Charakter.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Ein ganz bezauberndes Fruchtbouquet zeigend, Maulbeeren und Cassis, ein Hauch von Flieder gibt Frische ins besonders feingliedrige Nasenbild. Seidige Textur, hoch reife Tannine, welche eine verführerische Süsse ausstrahlen. **Genial vinifiziert und auf dem Weg zur nächst höheren Punktezahl in seiner Reife**“

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

James Suckling (93-94): „...*Wonderful purity of fruit here with blackberry, black currant and floral aromas and flavors. Full body. Fine tannins*“

Wine-Spectator (87-90): „...Ripe plum and blackberry compote flavors are very direct, framed by a well-singed cedary edge. This has solid fruit, but it's a bit shy on refinement“

Antonio Galloni (90-92): „...The 2015 Labégorce is dark, plummy and juicy, with lovely textural richness and intensity. This is a decidedly modern style of Margaux, with all the elements in the right place. Today, the new oak (45%) is a bit pronounced, but the wine appears to have the stuffing to support it. The high percentage of Merlot gives an extra degree of sumptuousness that is emphasized in this vintage. Raspberry jam, mint, cinnamon and wild flowers wrap around the succulent finish. The blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc.“

DECANTER (90): „...Big broad fruit and lots of structure and depth. Quite a chunky Labégorce with a good future.“

Monbrison **Cru Bourgeois** **17,5-18+** **26,05** **31,00**
Frucht etwas offen, mineralisch am Gaumen, erst etwas süß, dezent dopsig, dann trocken endend, wenig Charme.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Feinwürziges, ausladendes Bouquet, Weichselnoten, Waldhimbeeren und fein blättrige Würznoten. Im Gaumen stoffig, leicht aufrauhender Fluss mit minim kernigen Substanzen“

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 Monbrison has a perfumed bouquet with generous red cherry, wild strawberry and rose petal scents that are neatly folded into the new oak. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, sorbet-fresh fruit here with a lively and vivacious, quite fleshy finish that belies that fine tannin underneath. What a delicious Margaux to enjoy over 15-20 years, one that should be approachable not long after bottling“

James Suckling (92-93): „...*Very structured and tannic yet plenty of bright fruit underneath. Full and very silky. Excellent*“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...A juicy-edged version, with red and black currant flavors mixed with dark tea and roasted alder notes. Well-integrated already, revealing a mineral edge“

Antonio Galloni (87-90): „...The 2015 Monbrison is pretty, delicate and understated, with expressive floral notes that add lift to a core of bright red stone fruits. This is a very pretty, feminine Margaux that should drink well with minimal cellaring. There is good freshness throughout, especially on the finish“

DECANTER (91): „...Fine, floral nose and beautifully clear on the palate, though still quite tight with lots of character. Stays true to its very good reputation.“

Prieuré-Lichine **4^{ème} Cru Classé** **18+** **32,69** **38,90**
Sehr schöne, saubere Nase, sehr gute Struktur, knackig, lang, schlank elegant, Mitte vielleicht etwas zu schlank.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Direkt ansprechendes Bouquet, Maulbeeren ohne Ende, nicht zu süß aber doch eine herrliche Reife anzeigend. Im Gaumen wirkt die Frucht schier dropsig, leicht mehlig Kontur, die Anlagen sind aber versprechend. Kann noch zulegen“

Neal Martin (88-90): „...The 2015 Prieuré-Lichine has a tightly wound bouquet, crisp and a little leaner than some of its Margaux compadres. It just feels contained at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with gruff tannin on the entry. There is respectable depth here, but it feels linear and rather predictable towards the blackberry and cedar finish. I would like to see more complexity and personality come through by the time of bottling. It feels a bit bolshie at the moment“

James Suckling (95-96): „...This is really exceptional this year. Full body, very velvety tannins, wet earth, mushroom and currant character. Very stoney. Very long and flavorful. Greatest wine in the history of the estate“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...Lovely dark currant and plum reduction notes are carried by velvety tannins, with a light charcoal shading on the finish. Suave“

Antonio Galloni (91-94): „...The 2015 Prieuré-Lichine is all class. Nuanced, delicate and silky in the glass, the 2015 speaks to the finesse that is such a signature of Margaux. All the elements are in the right place. Sweet red cherry, plum, spice and floral notes mesh together in an effortless, gracious wine with a bright future. This is the first vintage Stephane Deroncourt and his team made in the new cellar.“

DECANTER (92): „...Beautifully concentrated black fruits on the nose and palate – a classy and elegant blend.“

Kirwan**3^{ème} Cru Classé****18,5+-19****33,53 39,90**

Sehr saubere, klare, intensive Kirschfrucht, feine Brotkruste, am Gaumen frisch, tolle Balance, Charme, knackig, sehr viel Frische, kräftige, sehr schöne Tannine, Blaubeeren im Finish, sehr elegant und lang, Finesse, selten so gut.

René Gabriel - 16/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Das Bouquet ist wenig kommunikativ und zeigt florale, kühle, knapp reife Fruchtnoten. Im Gaumen recht streng, Muskeln zeigend und auch eine leicht kapselige Note im Finale. Dieser Kirwan liegt leider weit hinter den Jahrgangserwartungen“

Neal Martin (89-91): „...The 2015 Kirwan has a very opulent, heady bouquet that perhaps has its foot pressed down a little too hard on the accelerator? It

just feels a little ostentatious compared directly with its peers. The palate goes some way to restore order with small dark cherries, taut and quite firm tannin with a very citrus-fresh finish. It is a Margaux that seems to be on full glare at the moment - I hope that during *élevage* the contrast is toned down, so that there is more balance and a sense of terroir can come through, because this estate can produce great wines“

James Suckling (93-94): „...So much character here of wet earth, mushroom and black currants. Full and powerful. Chewy tannins yet polished and very fine. Focused intense“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...Fresh, with a light iron frame around the red currant and damson plum fruit. Pretty lilac details chime in on the cedar-edged finish“

Wine Enthusiast (94-96): „...Fresh, ripe and fruity, this wine exhibits the fine character of a Margaux in 2015. Dense fruits and well-formed tannins give richness and a fresh character that is generously sustained by the tannins. Roger Voss“

DECANTER (92): „...A floral nose then showing all the class and natural old- vine concentration expected from Kirwan. A firmly classic wine.“

Palmer**3^{ème} Cru Classé****19+-19,5****231,09 275,00**

Ganz reife, schwarze Beeren und Kirschen, ganz schwarz, Süsse bereits in der Nase, Power und Struktur, sehr gute Tannine, Schoko im Finish, sehr lang, ganz groß.

René Gabriel - 20/20: „...50 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 44 % Merlot, 6 % Petit Verdot. 37 hl/ha. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Extrem würzig, viel schwarzer Pfeffer, Trüffelanklänge, Cassis, Brombeeren, grosses Nasenkino, schon zu diesem Zeitpunkt. Im Gaumen samtig, anmutig, runde, schier schon schmeichelnde Tannine aufweisend, viel Lakritze und Maulbeeren im langen, erhabenen, aromatischen Finale. Das Palmer-Team vergleicht diesen Jahrgang mit einer Mischung aus 2005, 2009 und 2010. Für mich ist das ganz einfach ein riesengrosser Palmer. Nicht spektakulär, sondern beruhigend. Auf extrem hohen Niveau. Margaux-Nonchalance. Als ich anfang Primeurweine zu verkosten, schien mir der Palmer beim Jahrgang 1985 um eine Nuance besser als der Château Margaux. Das Gefühl hatte ich heuer - nach 30 Jahren - auch wieder! Und irgendwo fand ich beim 2015er auch gewisse geschmackliche Parallelen zum 1985er... Es ist der absolut beste Margaux der Appellation“

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

James Suckling (99-100): „...wine with incredible character and style with black ink and blueberry aromas and flavors. Full body, extremely fresh and structured with riffing tannins. It is muscular and powerful. White pepper, sea salt, mineral, stone character. A wine built for the long term. The making of the new 1961“

Antonio Galloni (94-97): „...A dark, voluptuous beauty, the 2015 Palmer is just as beautiful today as it was from barrel a few months ago. Mocha, plum, black cherry, tobacco and cedar are fused together in an effortless, racy Margaux endowed with real pedigree. Sweet tannins round out the plush, seamless finish, but they are there. This is a hugely promising Palmer. The blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot“

DECANTER (96): „...Superb bouquet of black fruits with dry spice, tobacco and liquorice. Densely textured palate with incredible backbone: ‘2015 has all the charm we had in 2009 but more precision to make a serious wine without being severe,’ says CEO Thomas Duroux“

Pessac-Léognan**Seguin****17,5-18,5****21,01 25,00**

Komplexe, sehr schöne reife Frucht, spicy, dunkle Kirschen, viel Charme und Struktur, sicher der beste Preise/Gnuß-Wert in Pessac-Léognan.

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...DREI MAL 50 %...“

...Der Seguin 2015 ist ein Blend aus 50 % Cabernet Sauvignon und 50 % Merlot. Was wenige in dieser Preisklasse machen und schon gar nicht in einem so grossen Jahr. 50 % der Ernte wurde als Zweitwein (L'Angelot de Seguin) deklassiert.

Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Geniales Schwarzkirschenbouquet, Szechuanpfeffer, Brazil-Tabak, sehr präzise und direkt. Im zweiten Ansatz Schwarzbrotkruste und etwas Mocca. Sehr langer Gaumen, wohl geformte Tannine, nachhaltiges Finale. Dieser Seguin 2015 hat so viel Klasse, dass er weit in die Pessac-Léognan-Elite vordrängt. Er hat im Blend etwas mehr Merlot als sonst und gerade dies gibt ihm eine wunderbares Charme-Plus! Und somit ist er ein unbestechlicher Wert“

Neal Martin (89-91): „...The 2015 Château Seguin has a clean and precise bouquet with blackberry, wild hedgerow and wilted violet scents that are well defined and gain intensity in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with a sweet, slightly toasty entry. The tannins feel fine in the mouth, smooth in texture with a lightly spiced, easy-going finish that has a long and tender aftertaste. A delicious Pessac Léognan to consume over the next decade, possibly more“

Antonio Galloni (86-88): „...The 2015 Seguin opens with attractive scents of tobacco, licorice, menthol and herbs. A distinctly savory, earthy Pessac-Leognan, the 2015 offers good depth and juiciness, although some rustic, angular contours remain. The blend is 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot. Alain Raynaud is the consulting winemaker“

DECANTER (88): “...Firm, confident cassis and liquorice-infused fruits. 50% new oak adds a layer of roasted coffee. A consistent property, not for long ageing, but has attitude”.

Domaine de Chevalier **Cru Classé** **19-19,5** **52,10 62,00**
Klare, saubere Frucht, spicy, sehr gute Struktur, Charakter, toll, Schoko, dunkle Beeren im Finish, auch Mandeln, wieder ganz toll!

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Dichtes, rotbeeriges Bouquet mit wunderschöner Reifeanzeige. Amarenakirschen, Maulbeeren, eine tolle Tiefenwürze zeigend. Der Gaumen ist stoffig, weist eine tolle Konzentration auf, das Extrakt zeigt eine verführerische Süsse auf, dies bei samtigen Tanninen. Das ist eine äusserst burgundische Variante mit einem nicht unbescheidenen Verführungspotential. Frühe Reife und ein langes Leben. Was will man noch mehr?“



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

James Suckling (96-97): „...This shows class and finesse with ultra-fine tannins and succulent fruit. Full body yet elegant and long. Gorgeous wine. Such length. Vibrant and focused“

Wine-Spectator (91-94): “...Offers an open, easy feel. The creamy structure lets juicy plum and raspberry notes flow along and linger on the finish. Almost languid in character, and very suave”

Antonio Galloni (93-96): „...The 2015 Domaine de Chevalier is one of the most striking wines of the year. Weightless, powerful and intense, the 2015 possesses crystalline delineation and precision from the very first taste. Bright red stone fruit, pomegranate, chalk and mint are some of the signatures. In the last of my four tastings, the Domaine de Chevalier showed tremendous richness and intensity as well. It will be interesting to see where the 2015 ends up. The future certainly looks bright. In 2015 the blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot. The wine will see around 35% new oak. Stéphane Dernonourt and his team consult on the red“

DECANTER (95): “...Sexy burnish of charcoal-grilled rich black cherry fruit with firmly held tannins. A lovely wine – fairly high powered compared to some; this is one to cellar for a while. 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 33% new oak”

Malartic Lagraviere **Cru Classé** **18,5-19** **39,50 47,00**
Sehr schöne, würzige Frucht, spicy, sehr gute Struktur, kräftige Tannine, aber sehr, sehr gut.

René Gabriel - 17/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Extrem süßes, dropsiges Bouquet, in den Röstnoten sind auch gewisse Malaga- und Jungportkonturen zu erspüren. Im zweiten Ansatz; gekochte Piemontkirschen und dunkle Schokonoten, laktische Tendenz. Im Gaumen mit gutem Fruchtndruck, wieder auf Kirschen setzend, gut stützende Säure, irgendwie spürt man da auch eine deutliche, Extraktion welche wohl tendenziell im oberen Bereich lag, im Innern sind kernige, ja schier grüne Tannin-Resten zu finden. Die Anlagen wären an sich gross, aber es fehlt (noch) an Harmonie. Ist man da etwas zu weit gegangen im Keller? Das Potential ist grösser als der Spass.“

Neal Martin (94-96): „...The 2015 Malartic-Lagraviere is a blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 7% Petit Verdot that was harvested between 21 September and 7 October at 43 hl/ha, matured in 80% new oak. It has a tightly wound bouquet, a little more reticent than its peers at first, opening gradually with blackberry, raspberry coulis and strawberry pastilles. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin, a keen line of acidity, fresh and brisk with plenty of mineralité on the finish. This is a classic, serious Malartic with huge potential. Chapeau to the Bonnie family for creating a stupendous Pessac-Léognan“

James Suckling (96-97): „...This shows fabulous depth of fruit and ripe tannins that last for minutes. Full body. Insane finish. Powerful. Greatest ever from here“

Wine-Spectator (91-94): “...Offers a sleek, fresh feel, with plum and cassis notes streaming along, carried by a tarry hint. Stays lively through the defined finish”

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

DECANTER (93): “...Dark, rich, serious, well-extracted fruit; firm but with just the right pressure on the pedal. One that will age very well, continuing a run of strong vintages here. Cinnamon and black pepper spice from 7% Petit Verdot – increasingly common in Pessac-Léognan. 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, 80% new oak”.

Smith Haut Lafitte **Cru Classé** **kB** **70,59** **84,00**

René Gabriel - 18/20: „...63 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 33 % Merlot, 2 % Cabernet Franc, 2 % Petit Verdot. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Deutlich röstiger Beginn, Kaffeenoten, schwarze Kirschen, dunkle Edelhölzer, die Beerenkonturen zeigen alle drei Farben auf; rot, blau und schwarz. Im Gaumen erst elegant beginnend, dann mit seinen verlangenden Tanninen zugreifend. Er wird viel Flaschenreife brauchen, um diese noch extrahiert wirkenden Gerbstoffnoten in sich zu integrieren. Das Potential ist zweifellos da. Mit diesem 2015er feiert man gleich zwei Jubiläen. 650 Jahre Smith-Haut-Lafitte (seit 1365) und 25 Jahre Cathiard-Besitz (seit 1990).

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

James Suckling (97-98): „...*This is a very polished and precise young wine with beautiful depth and intensity. Full and sexy. It shows blueberry and black currant character with walnut and chocolate undertones. The tannins have a lovely texture. Joy to taste*“

Wine-Spectator (94-97): “...Ripe and succulent in feel, with warm plum and blackberry confiture notes leading the way. Picks up singed alder and tar details through the finish, gaining extra depth. Very pure, but with ample grip in reserve. A serious wine”

Antonio Galloni (93-96+): „...The 2015 Smith Haut Lafitte is superb. Dark, powerful and towering, the 2015 exudes richness and a level of intensity in all directions that is remarkable. This is an especially dark, brooding Grand Vin built on serious depth, intensity and structure, and yet there is more than enough richness in the fruit to balance things out. The extreme heat of the year appears to have baked out some of the aromatic nuance. It will be interesting to see if that dimension opens up. For now, the 2015 is massively shut down. Readers will have to be especially patient, as the 2015 won't be ready to drink for some time. Both en primeur samples I tasted were less expressive than the separate components were when I tasted them from barrel in late January 2016, so I won't be surprised at all if the bottled wine comes in at the top of this range.“

DECANTER (96): “...63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot. Organic. A wonderful wine of great impact and rich, grippy tannins but the density imperceptibly lightens towards the finish so you are left with the impression of freshness even though the liquorice, black cherry and cassis flavour persists. Smith Haut Lafitte has clearly stopped chasing the ripest fruit, instead going for the most aromatic, at perfect phenolic maturity. 3.7pH, 65% new oak”

La Mission Haut-Brion **Cru Classé** **19-19,5+** **352,94** **420,00**
Sehr blaubeerige, frische Frucht, am Gaumen gleich zu Beginn Süße, Power und Balance und Finesse, alles auf der frischen Seite, sehr gute Säure, lang, mit kräftigen Tanninen.

René Gabriel - 19/20: „...58 % Merlot, 35 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 7 % Cabernet Franc. Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Berausches Bouquet, viel Maulbeeren und Cassis, zeigt dabei viel tiefgründige Würze, Lakritze, dunkle Edelhölzer, Havanna-Tabak, Teer und schwarze Trüffelanklänge. Massiver, konzentrierter Gaumen, alles liegt im schwarzbeerigen Bereich, die Tannine sind genau auf dem Punkt und auch die Früchte sind weder- unter- noch überreif. Also ein sehr präziser, langer Mission mit Neigung zur Klassik. Was denn auch sein Potential unterstreicht und den Effekt, dass es kein Frühcharmeur wird. Erste Genussreife ist da wohl erst in etwa 15 Jahren“



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

James Suckling (100): „...*The purity in this wine is really mindblowing. So*

perfect. Licorice. Stone. Blackberry, blueberry. Full body. The power is amazing. But then it finishes ethereal and so agile and beautiful. I am lost for words. This will rank with the best ever from here including 1975 and 1929. 58% merlot, 35% cabernet sauvignon, and cabernet franc

Antonio Galloni (94-97): „...In 2015, La Mission Haut-Brion is translucent and deeply expressive to the core. Remarkably polished for such a young wine, the 2015 also handles its 15% alcohol with grace. Smoke, graphite, tar, leather and incense, the 2015 exudes intensity allied to freshness, a combination that makes it virtually irresistible in my book. The 2015 is also remarkably nuanced for such a big wine, but it has tremendous persistence in all directions. Scents of rose petal, mint, red cherry and pomegranate meld into the voluptuous finish.“

DECANTER (96): “...Taut and tense from the off: coffee, smoky almond and pulsing with vibrancy and energy. Reservations over the high alcohol at 15.1%abv but 3.74pH means you barely feel it. Such beautiful tannic grip and sense of forward motion, showing great ageing potential. Beautiful length of damson and loganberry fruits and fragrant heather and garden herbs. Lovely texture, structured and tannic hold. 78% new oak”

Pape Clément **Cru Classé** **18,5+-19** **79,83 95,00**

Komplexe Nase, sehr aromatisch, vollreif+, spicy, Pflaumen, Kirschen, Power & Süße, sehr kräftige Tannine, etwas herb.

René Gabriel - 20/20: „...50 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 47 % Merlot, 2 % Petit Verdot, 1 % Cabernet Franc. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Extrem dunkelbeerig mit vielen Rauchnuancen, Lakritze, dunklen Edelhölzer, Guinness-Biermalz und Black Currant im ersten Ansatz. Nach ein paar Minuten kommt eine feine Zimtnuance zum Tragen, Heidelbeerenmark und Tahiti-Vanilleschote. Das Aromenpaket ist in sich gekehrt und bleibt noch etwas im Innern obwohl der Wein gleichfalls auch verschwenderische Ansätze zeigt. Ausgeglichene, royale Adstringenz aufweisend, cremiges Extrakt mit massiver, aber nicht überladener Konzentration, bleibt blaubeerig und hat in sich eine nicht erklärbare Faszination. Trotz der absolut modernen Vinifikation bleibt er irgendwie klassisch. Nach dem Spucken blieb er minutenlang im Gaumen zurück. Und mir blieb dabei förmlich die Spucke weg. Das war mein grösster Pape-Clément als Jungweinprobe. Fünf Mal verkostet. Er ist momentan der beste Pessac-Léognan. Mit der Gefahr, dass ihn Haut-Brion oder Mission einmal ein- möglicherweise überholen werden. Aber vor 20 Jahren wird dies nicht der Fall sein!“

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

James Suckling (97-98): „...Shows amazing depth of fruit with fabulous polish and length. Electric acidity. Full body, very integrated and refined tannins. Phenolic finesse shows here. Great finish. It lasts for minutes. Best young Pape Clément I have tasted. Grows in the glass“

Wine-Spectator (93-96): “...Big, broad and overt in style, with a thick frame of espresso and roasted apple wood around a core of dense plum paste and cassis flavors. Strides along authoritatively, as melted licorice and fruitcake notes fill in on the hefty finish. Shows more style than [i]terroir[n], but pulls it off. ”

Antonio Galloni (93-96): „...The 2015 Pape Clément is stunningly beautiful. Rich, ample and powerful, the 2015 exudes richness. As always, Pape Clément is one of the most overt wines in Pessac, but the move towards picking a bit earlier gives the wine more energy than was the norm a decade ago without fundamentally altering the style Bernard Magrez and Michel Rolland favor. Dark red cherry, plum, menthol, licorice, blood orange and exotic spices are all very much alive. The purity of the fruit here is striking. This is one of the best recent vintages of Pape Clément I have tasted. The 2015 is 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot, done in about 80% new oak.“

DECANTER (95): “...Clear reductive environment, saving the best nose for the consumer and not for en primeur. A lovely richly textured wine –really velvety with gorgeous purity to the damson and black cherry fruits”



average age of the vineyard, planted at 7,000 vines/hectare, is 30 years. However, the Cabernet Franc is closer to 50 years old. The varietal mix includes 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc rooted in clay and deep limestone soils. The vineyards are mechanically tilled and the goal here, as at Peter's Haut Brisson estate, is to be certified organic as soon as possible. Manual harvesting began on October 3rd and ran until the 16th. Net yields in 2015 were just 33 hls/ha. After careful table-sorting of the fruit, and a three-day cold soak at 10° C, fermentation took place in a combination of small cement tanks and in 225-liter barrels. Cuvaision ran a full 28 days. Malolactic subsequently took place in barrel with the wine spending its first four months on the post-malo. The new wine is aging in 40% new oak barrels, 40% one-year old and 20% two-year old barrels from Darnajou (30%), Saury (30%), Quintessence (20%), Demptos (10%), and Remond (10%) and is expected to run 18 months. The tentative blend is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc. 14.8%. Potential production is 60,000 bottles (70% of the total production). The vineyard manager and winemaker here is the quite talented Jérôme Aguirre who previously worked at Christine Péré-Vergé's vineyards in Pomerol. Michel Rolland is the consultant on all of Peter Kwok's vineyards"

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

Antonio Galloni (91-94): „...The 2015 Tour Saint Christophe is the most beautiful wine I have tasted off this property. Dark, sumptuous and yet also strikingly vivid, the 2015 possesses superb nuance to balance its natural intensity. Cloves, new leather, crème de cassis and sweet spices give the 2015 much of its unctuous feel and overall texture. This is a superb showing from Tour Saint Christophe and the team led by proprietor Peter Kwok and consultant Michel Rolland“

Bellevue



Grand Cru Classé

18,5+

35,71 42,50

Sehr schöne, klare blau-schwarzbeerige Frucht, dicht, vollreif+, lang, Bitterschoko, sehr süß und sehr schön.

René Gabriel : 18/20: „...100 % Merlot. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Reifes Beerenbouquet, mit ganz feinen Röstnoten unterlegt, legt zu an der Luft und zeigt eine wunderschöne Komplexität. Im Gaumen stoffig, nachhaltiges Extrakt, viel Walderdbeeren von der generellen Fruchtausrichtung her, hat Reserven und gibt eine klassische Marschrichtung von der Aromatik her vor. Ein geduldiger Wein mit grossartigem Potential“

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

James Suckling (96-97): „...A sexy and beautiful wine with incredible blackberry, dark chocolate and salt character. Full body, chewy and powerful. Great length. 100% merlot.“

Antonio Galloni (90-92): „...The 2015 Bellevue is energetic and nicely delineated, especially for such a powerful wine. Crème de cassis, lavender, mint and sweet spices fill out the wine's frame nicely. I very much like the sense of freshness that runs through some of the darker flavors. I expect the 2015 will drink well early. Today, it is super-impressive“

DECANTER (94): “...Part-owned by Angélu and one of the best ever from this château. 100% Merlot. Succulent fruit but fresh and lively with the limestone terroir apparent. Long, structured finish. Harmonious.”

La Serre

Grand Cru Classé

18,5+

32,77 39,00

Sehr dichte, intensive Nase, spicy, Kirchenbank, viel Süße und Charme, kräftige, frische Säure, lang, top Tannine.

René Gabriel : 17/20: „...Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Delikates, verführerisches Bouquet, Waldhimbeeren, Cassis und Nuancen von Kokos. Auch im Gaumen ist dieser schier zarte Saint Emilion eine Delikatesse. Im zweiten Anlauf zeigt er dann aber doch eine satte Extraktionsnote was sein Potential unterstreicht. Das sanft bittere muss er noch raus arbeiten. Dann kann er noch zulegen“

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 La Serre, a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, has buoyant red berry fruit on the nose - lively and nonchalant. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, well-judged acidity, very harmonious with impressive fruit concentration towards the velvety finish. I often feel that La Serre is overlooked at en primeur, but this is a valuable contribution to the JP Moueix stable this year“

James Suckling (92-93): „...Blueberry and blackberry aromas and flavors. Full body, ultra-fine tannins and a long, long finish. So polished. A majority of merlot with some cabernet franc.“

Wine-Spectator (88-91): “...Features a very ripe, friendly core of raspberry and blackberry fruit, though the frame of singed alder is a bit taut. If that fades into the fruit, this will be a pleasant charmer”

Antonio Galloni (86-89): „...Crushed flowers, sweet red berries, mint and anise give the 2015 La Serre its distinctive lifted personality. An especially fragrant, mid-weight Saint-Émilion, the 2015 will appeal most to readers who enjoy lighter, more gracious wines. Today, the oak is a bit prominent, which reinforces my overall impression that the 2015 is lacking in depth. La Serre is 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc“

DECANTER (89): “...Bright fruit with a touch of creamy oak. Suave fruit on the palate with plenty of zest and freshness. Tannins refined. Minerality provides the tension. Clean and long on the finish”

Wine-Spectator (94-97): "...Dark and winey, with currant paste and fig notes backed by slightly briary grip and an ample dose of toast. There's good energy here and nice vivacity, despite the darker profile today, and this should easily round into form after the élevage"

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

DECANTER (93): "...Pure and fragrant with a delightfully perfumed nose. The palate is harmonious and poised with a velvety texture showing maturity and freshness. Fruit very much to the fore backed by fine-grained tannins and a persistent finish. Now organically certified"

Trottevieille **1^{er} Grand Cru Classé** **18,5+** **56,05** **66,70**
Sehr schöne, elegante Nase, elegant auch am Gaumen, Finesse pur, Finale viel Power.

René Gabriel : 18/20: "...49 % Merlot, 49 % Cabernet Franc, 2 % Cabernet Sauvignon. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Sehr intensives, wuchtiges Bouquet, Cassis, Rosenholz, Szechuanpfefferkörner, ein Hauch von Menthol erfrischt die Nase. Im Gaumen dicht, feinfleischig, gut stützende Muskeln in der Adstringenz, pfeffrige Rasse und eine tolle Länge zeigend. Ein langlebiger, massiver und somit auch geduldiger Trottevieille. Kann sogar noch zulegen"

Neal Martin (94-96): "...The 2015 Trottevieille is blend of 49% Merlot, 49% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon picked between 28 September and 9 October matured in 100% new oak. It has a very intense bouquet, tightly wound with red and black fruit, hints of truffle coming through with aeration and then it appears to calm down and achieve a wonderful level of definition. The palate is medium-bodied with superb clarity. It feels supple in the mouth, extremely pure and soaking up the new oak with ease. It has a lively orange sorbet and red fruit-driven finish that is silky smooth in texture, thanks to the fineness of the tannin. Cellar this for 5-8 years minimum and then revel in this ascendant Saint Emilion for the next three or four decades"

James Suckling (98-99): "...This is phenomenal. Greatest wine from here. Such class and power. It starts off slowly and then goes on for minutes. Full body. Yet racy. The new 1961 Trotte"

Wine-Spectator (90-93): "...The freshness and bright profile stand out, with red currant, pomegranate and blood orange notes that are atypical for the vintage. Pretty savory and floral details fill in and the finish has a fine chalky spine. Shows very little extraction"

DECANTER (95): "...49% each Merlot and Cabernet Franc with 2% Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromatically fresh and fragrant. Pure and concentrated with a depth of dark, brambly fruit. Tannic power but the tannins are round and defined. Impressive length and freshness. 100% new oak is completely absorbed. Harmonious; one of the best ever from this estate"

Pomerol

Bourgneuf **18,5** **29,41** **35,00**
Ganz warme, saubere, dichte Frucht, frisch, sehr gut vinifiziert, lang, saftig, kräftige Tannine, feine Bitterschoko, groß.

René Gabriel : 17/20: "...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Phenoliges, leicht alkoholisch wirkendes Bouquet, gekochte Beeren, Tabak, erdiger Unterton. Fleischiger Gaumen, einer verlangende leicht mürbe Adstringenz zeigend. Liegt eher auf der maskulinen Seite und bleibt sich geschmacklich - gemäss vorherigen Jahrgängen - selber treu. Er kann noch einen Punkt zulegen"

Neal Martin (90-92): "...The 2015 Château Bourgneuf has a crisp and quite earthy, blackberry and briary scented bouquet that just needs to coalesce during its élevage. The palate is medium-bodied with steely tannin, quite pointed acidity, fresh in the mouth with moderate weight, hints of licorice surfacing towards the linear finish. Note that a second sample at JP Moueix showed more elegance and poise on the velvety finish. Give this 3-5 years in bottle"

James Suckling (94-95): "...A super velvety textured red with a freshness and coolness. Full body, ultra-balanced and a savory finish. Super. Mostly merlot with a touch of cabernet franc"

Wine-Spectator (91-94): "...A flattering wine in the making, with a velvety feel from start to finish, offering warm plum, blueberry and boysenberry fruit that cascades through the finish. Features a healthy dose of toast, but everything is integrated and the fruit will win out easily when the élevage is done"

Antonio Galloni (88-90): "...The 2015 Bourgneuf is ripe, racy and succulent, all qualities that give it considerable near and medium-term appeal. Sweet red stone fruit, mint, anise and wild flowers flesh out on the succulent, inviting finish. The Bourgneuf is an attractive, mid-weight Pomerol with lovely freshness. The blend is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc."

DECANTER (91): "...New generation at the helm and showing constant progression. Rich and complex on the nose. The palate is round and full but also fresh and harmonious, with fine tannins and a long finish. Will offer value"



Clos du Clocher 18,5+ 35,29 42,00
Sehr komplexe, würzige Frucht, spicy, Kirchenbank, viel und sehr schöne Frucht, elegant, kräftige, gute Tannine.

René Gabriel : 18/20: „...Sattes Purpur-Granat, dicht in der Mitte, lila Schimmer aussen. Intensives Bouquet, sehr dicht und viel Merlotwürze zeigend, Cassisanflüge. Im Gaumen stoffig, zeigt eine tolle Extraktsüsse, nachhaltiges Finale. Nicht so sexy wie sonst, aber durch seine Konzentration wirkt er seriös und vermittelt ein tolles Potential. Eine gute Kaufempfehlung“

Neal Martin (92-94): „...The 2015 Clos du Clocher is a blend of 81% Merlot and 19% Cabernet Franc that was matured in 65% new oak (15% 'vinification intégrale'). It has an intense bouquet with generous, vivacious dark cherry, cassis and black truffle aromas that do not hold back from the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with silky smooth tannin, very nicely poised, quite weighty in the mouth with fine backbone on the finish, suggesting that this Clos du Clocher is a long-term contender“

James Suckling (95-96): „...This is massive with so much ripe fruit and velvety tannins, yet it manages to remain fresh and balanced. Full body, round texture and a long finish. **Best ever from here“**

DECANTER (86-89): „...The 2015 Clos du Clocher is dark, powerful and super-concentrated. Blackberry jam, bittersweet chocolate, spice, leather and tobacco blossom in a dense, racy Pomerol. Ultimately, the 2015 comes across as overly heavy and lacking in finesse. It would be nice to see a bit more overall freshness and polish in the tannins. The underlying material suggests more is possible“

Domaine L'Eglise 18+ 30,25 36,00
Sehr saubere, schöne, süße Nase, viel Charme zu Beginn, dann sehr kräftige Tannine, sehr kompakter Domaine L'Eglise.

René Gabriel : 18/20: „...Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Geniales Bouquet, blaue- und schwarze Früchte anzeigend, feine Rauchnoten und Lakritze im Untergrund. Im Gaumen fleischig, dicht, hier fast nur noch schwarzbeerige, pfeffrige Rasse im Extrakt vermittelnd, nachhaltiges Finale. **Das ist der bisher beste Wein dieses Weingutes en Primeur!** Mindestens so gut wie der 2005er. Wenn nicht noch besser“

James Suckling (95-96): „...This has after burners on the palate. It's full and ultra-silky with incredible power and length. It goes on for minutes. 94% merlot. Great wine ever. Unique from here“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...Ripe but fresh, with a blood orange thread energizing the plum and raspberry fruit. The finish shows a twinge of slightly firm singed apple wood, but there's good flesh here“

La Petit Eglise 18+ 31,51 37,50



Sehr komplexe, reife, schöne Frucht, süße Früchte, sehr lecker, gewisse Strenge aber sehr gut.

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 La Petite Eglise is pure Merlot picked on 24 September at 41 hl/ha and matured in 45% new oak. It has a vivacious, precocious bouquet for a deuxième vin, kirsch and raspberry coulis, a touch of orange blossom. It is not an exotic bouquet, but it knows how to have fun. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red berry fruit, good depth in the mouth, perhaps just a little pinched on the finish at the moment, but it will have its fingers pried open by the end of its élevage. As such, give this a couple of years in bottle before broaching“

DECANTER (89): „...100% Merlot picked on 24 September. Fragrant

Burgundian nose and a gentle, caressing palate with polished tannins providing a light structure. Accessible earlier so enjoy it on the fruit“

L'Eglise Clinet 19,5-20 209,24 249,00



Extrem komplexe, tolle, reife Frucht, blaubeerig, ganz klar, enorme Balance, Eleganz und Frische, tolle floreale Nuancen, lang, lang, lang... noch länger, sehr gute Tannine, süßes Finale. Ein Wein, wie ein großes Menü. Von Amuse Bouche bis zum süßen Finale Spannung bei den Gängen, vom leichteren Fisch- bis zum kräftigen Fleischgang. Ein genialer Wein.

René Gabriel : 19/20: „...90 % Merlot, 10 % Cabernet Franc. 41 hl/ha. Der Zweitwein (La Petite Eglise) war noch nie so gut. Fast hätte ich die Degustationsration geschluckt. Das könnte also bereits eine Kaufempfehlung sein. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Das Bouquet ist präzise und zeigt viel tiefgründige Noten, die Frucht ist geprägt von vielen, kleinen, reifen Beeren, auch kandierte Cakesfrüchte findet man und Spuren von Zitronenthymian und einem Hauch von Zitronenthymian und Minze. Im Gaumen fest, verlangend, eine deutliche Adstringenz liefernd, die Tannine sind momentan so stark, dass diese den wohl reichen Körper dominieren, die Frucht wirkt extrem reif und im

zweiten Nachhall findet man die berühmten Himbeerenkernen welche jeweils einen ganz grossen Jahrgang dokumentieren. Doch diese Grösse hat auch seinen Preis. Der Wein wird nur ganz langsam altern. Und wenn man den vielleicht vergleichbaren Jahrgang 1998 in Betracht zieht, so ist dieser nach fast zwei Dekaden immer noch weit entfernt in seiner ersten Reife. Also kann man die erste Reife hier so in 25 Jahren erwarten. Also ist dieser barocke, mächtige 2015er Eglise-Clinet absolut nichts für Ungeduldige“

Neal Martin (96-98): „...The 2015 L'Eglise-Clinet is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, picked between 21-25 September at 41 hl/ha and matured in 70% new oak. Denis Durantou poured two samples for me. First from Darnajou barrel. Here, a very composed, effortless bouquet with extremely pure raspberry coulis, strawberry, almost confit-like scents that display ethereal

delineation. This is not a powerful or intense bouquet, rather one that is sophisticated and refined, bunches of violet emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy red berry fruit, crisp acidity, mineral-rich and tensile. There is tangible energy and refinement on the finish that lingers long and tenderly in the mouth, a wine constantly having something more to say. The second came from Demptos barrel. This was deeper on the nose, showing a touch more fruit, slightly higher toned. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, structured in the mouth, perhaps the barrel impressing its character more on the wine than the Darnajou. Together, they should combine to create a quite magical 2015 L'Eglise-Clienet“

James Suckling (98-99): „...Lively and energized. Full body, intense and dense tannins. Great wine. Goes on for minutes. Such focus and clarity“

Wine-Spectator (94-97): „...Very restrained and graceful now, this has serious cut and persistence to the blood orange, bitter cherry and plum fruit flavors. Shows a minerally edge through the finish, with ample flesh that should expand a bit more with the élevage. Fresh and long“

Antonio Galloni (95-97): „...Denis Durantou's 2015 L'Eglise-Clienet is magnificent. A wine that has it all, the 2015 is vertical, dense and also remarkably translucent, all at the same time. The purity, freshness and energy of the 2015 is remarkable and yet the wine has immense depth. Readers will have to be patient, as the 2015 carries considerable tannic heft. In 2015 L'Eglise-Clienet is a wine of stature and true pedigree. The 2015 is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc brought in between September 21 and 25. Don't miss it“

DECANTER (95): „...Only 4.2ha. 90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc. Seductive fruit and aroma. Inhabitual fragrance at the en primeur stage. Floral, berry fruit and chocolate notes. Voluptuous fruit hides the power of ripe tannins behind. Firmness and persistence on the finish. Both solid and seductive. Great potential“

Evangile

kB

175,63 209,00

René Gabriel : 19/20: „...84 % Merlot, 16 % Cabernet Franc. Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Wohligen, dunkelmalziges Bouquet, viel Brombeeren und dunkle Schokolade. Im Gaumen sehr füllig mit einer selten angetroffenen Opulenz bei einer Evangile-Fassprobe, alles ist harmonisch und am richtigen Ort. Da ist viel Pomerol-Erotik mit dabei. Für den Kellermeister Pascal Vazart kann man diesen phänomenalen durchaus mit dem 1998er vergleichen“

Neal Martin (96-98): „...The 2015 L'Evangile is a blend of 84% Merlot and 16% Cabernet Franc picked between September 15 and October 5, and September 29 to October 5 respectively. Matured almost in 100% new oak, it has a very pure and charming bouquet, the Merlot dominant and slightly shrouding the Cabernet Franc at the moment. It is worth staying with this Pomerol, because it does change after four to five minutes in the glass, revealing touches of truffle and iodine. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, well-judged acidity, understated on the entry but gaining momentum in the glass, retaining a wonderful sense of symmetry and finishing with precision and class. This could well be the pick of the wines from the Domaines Barons Rothschild stable in 2015 and kudos to winemaker Jean-Pascal Vazart.“

James Suckling (99-100): „...What a wine here. It is so traditional and powerful with super depth of fruit and chewy tannins. Full body, incredible concentration and length. It's so muscular and powerful. So minerally and nutty (walnuts). Marvelous“

DECANTER (94): „...After the slightly leaner 2014, this is a full-bodied, rich, opulent Evangile with a powerful presence of ripe tannin and freshness provided by the 16% Cabernet Franc. Weighty but refined and with staying power“

Guillot Clauzel

17,5-18

31,93 38,00

Seit ich Ihnen Guillot-Clauzel vor einige Jahren vorstellte, hat sich eine treue Fangemeinde entwickelt und Jahr für Jahr benötige ich mehr Kisten. Das Problem aber ist, dass es bei diesem Garagenweingut (**400 Kisten Gesamtproduktion**) nicht jedes Jahr mehr und mehr Kisten gibt. Guillot-Clauzel ist ein ganz kleines Château (**nur ca. 1,5 ha in bester Lage; 70% Merlot und 30% Cabernet Franc**) in unmittelbarer Nachbarschaft zu Le Pin. Auf Guillot-Clauzel wird handwerklich traditionell gearbeitet. Ganz im Stile von Le Pin und Vieux Château Certan.

Vollreif+, Kirschen, am Gaumen sehr gute Struktur, dezent Bitterschoko.

Neal Martin (82-85): „...The 2015 Guillot Clauzel felt jammy on the nose, overdone in the winery. The palate is sweet and chewy with good depth, but it needs more tension and finesse to show through by the time of bottling. Hopefully it will...this Pomerol cru can sometimes produce fine wine, but this needs to improve by the time of bottling“

La Fleur Gazin

18+

26,05 31,00

Sehr schöne, saubere Nase, hellere Früchte/Beeren, sehr schöne Balance, gute Struktur, feine Bitterschoko, sehr schön. Danke, einer der bisher besten Lafleur Gazin, die ich je verkostet habe.

René Gabriel : 16/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Erstaunlich erdig wirkendes Bouquet. Während andere Pomerols nur so mit verschwenderischer Frucht berauschen, wirkt dieser hier reserviert. Im Gaumen beruhigend, auch irgendwie introvertiert, tintiges Extrakt und erst im Finale Brombeerenspuren zeigend. Im Gaumen zeigen sich feine Kernenspuren die auch etwas Grünliches vermitteln. Entweder war das nicht gerade sein optimaler Degustationstag, oder man hat hier nicht nach den Jahrgangsmöglichkeiten gearbeitet“

Neal Martin (85-87?): „...The 2015 Lafleur-Gazin is a blend of 98% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc. This is one Pomerol Cru shown at J-P Moueix that I found a little muddled on the nose at the moment; it did not really "sing" from the glass. The palate is medium-bodied and shows more cohesion and focus than the aromatics - grainy tannin, quite saline in the mouth with a touch of black truffle on the finish. Hopefully the bouquet will get its act together by the time it is in bottle“

James Suckling (94-95): „...The best wine I have ever had from here. Super depth of fruit and deep and velvety tannins. Full and gorgeous throughout. A study in strength with finesse. Mostly merlot with a touch of cabernet franc

Wine-Spectator (92-95): "...Offers an alluring licorice frame, with currant and plum sauce flavors giving this a slightly dark profile. Shows a velvety edge throughout"

Antonio Galloni (87-89): "...The 2015 Lafleur-Gazin is a powerful, dark wine that shows the riper side of the vintage. Black cherry, plum, smoke, graphite and spices give the 2015 its distinctive virile, brooding personality. Coarse tannins add to an overall impression of rusticity. It will be interesting to see if the Lafleur-Gazin finds a bit better balance during élevage. The blend is 98% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc"

DECANTER (88): "...More weight and structure than in the past. Reserved red and dark fruit nose but plenty of fruit and charm on the palate. Firm tannins behind"

Nenin

18,5+

48,70 57,95

Fruchtig, sauber, schön, dezent bitter aber sonst sehr gut.

René Gabriel : 19/20: "...67 % Merlot, 33 % Cabernet Franc. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Noch nie war ein Nenin dunkelbeerig bei einer Primeurverkostung, Brombeeren und Heidelbeeren, Lakritze, schöne Tiefe anzeigend. Im Gaumen aromatisch, samtig, weiche Textur, Cassis à gogo, sehr lang und auch enorm aromatisch. Das ist bei Weitem der beste Nenin der noch jungen Délon-Geschichte. Und er erinnert irgendwie an die ganz grossen Jahrgänge von ganz früher"

Neal Martin (92-94): "...The 2015 Nenin is a blend of 67% Merlot and 33% Cabernet Franc, cropped at 37 hl/ha between 17 September and 5 October over nine picking days. The alcohol arrives at 14.3%. Matured in 35% new oak, it sports a precise and elegant bouquet. This is a more nuanced Nenin compared to recent vintages whereby the Merlot is more expressive than the Cabernet Franc at present. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin. This is very well balanced, a more sophisticated Nenin than in recent years, due to Jean-Hubert Delon's decision to deselect some worthy parcels into the deuxième vin. There is an attractive sappiness towards the finish that lingers nicely in the mouth. I would just like to see that Cabernet Franc finding its voice by the time this 2015 is in bottle, but this Nenin has very good potential. One to watch"

James Suckling (94-95): "...Most structured and powerful Nenin I have tasted in 30 years. Full body incredible brightness and beauty. Loads of blackberry and mineral character. Extremely long and intense. Creamy texture goes on for minutes. 33% cabernet franc and 63% merlot"

Antonio Galloni (89-92): "...The 2015 Nenin is 67% Merlot and 33% Cabernet Franc. Deep, pliant and expressive, the 2015 captures all of the sensuality of the year in its dark red cherry, plum, mocha, spice and leather nuances. Succulent and ripe, yet very much medium in body, the 2015 should drink well upon release. The 2015 is not especially complex or structured, but it is a delicious wine to enjoy for its bounty of fruit and impeccable overall balance"

DECANTER (93): "...A third of the crop and probably the most precise wine yet from this Léoville-Las Cases-owned property. Constructed in the house style with fine-grained tannins and impressive length and freshness. Less opulence than previous years but very pure"

Petrus

19+-19,5+

auf Anfrage

Sehr lange Mazerationszeit für Petrus (25 Tage statt 16-17).

Ganz klare, saubere, tolle Frucht, Kirschen, Mandeln, schöne Süße am Gaumen, feine Vanille, sehr große Balance und Finesse, sehr komplex, Wachholderwürze, sehr gute Säure, lang, lang,...

René Gabriel : 20/20: "...EIN PÉTRUS BEI DEM MANN ALLES VERGISST
Letztes Jahr war es nicht einfach den 2014er Pétrus zu verkosten. Er war wenig kommunikativ und wohl auch nicht gerade der ganz grosse Reisser. Heuer war es einfacher. Viel einfacher. Einmal im Glas, legte der 2015er gleich los und offenbarte sich auf simple Weise in seiner ganzen, enormen Grösse. Mit einem Alkoholwert knapp unter 15 Prozent gehört er zu den reichsten Jahrgängen der letzten Dekaden. Es war wie meistens eine reine Septemberernte, welche am 15. mit den etwas jüngeren Reben begann und am 20. und 29. mit den alten Stöcken endete.

Ich degustierte ihn genau um 9.46 Uhr an einem Montagmorgen und war hin und weg. Dann wechselte ich noch ein paar Worte mit Olivier Berrouet, klappte mein silbernes Rimowa-Aluköffchen zu und verliess den Degustationsaal. Kaum draussen, kam mir in den Sinn, dass ich mein Gabriel-Gold-Glas auf dem Tisch hatte stehen lassen. Also ging ich nochmals zurück, um es zu holen. Just wieder draussen, kam jemand auf mich zu und überreichte mir meinen schwarzen Mantel den ich ebenfalls drinnen vergessen hatte...

100 % Merlot. 40 hl/ha 30'000 Flaschen. Extrem dunkles Purpur mit lila und violetten Reflexen. Süsses, kompaktes Bouquet, viel reife Kirschen, Holunder und Cassis, hinterlegt mit fein floralen, erfrischenden Noten. Man spürt da im Hintergrund auch einen Hauch Minze und Milchschockotöne. Im Gaumen komplex, eine herrliche, parfümierte Merlotsüsse zeigend. Dieser Pétrus 2015 ist emotionell bewegend und fraglos gross. Für mich hatte er viele Parallelen zum 2000er den ich kurz vor Weihnachten aus einer Magnum geniessen durfte. Olivier Berrouet: «Da die Trauben sehr reif waren, konnten wir im Keller Vollgas geben. Das Resultat: Power und Finesse. Genau so muss ein ganz grosser Pétrus sein!»

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

James Suckling (100): „...A wine that makes me dream and touches my soul. Such amazing purity and density yet the tannins and acidity are in perfect balance. The freshness and quality tannins are second to none. It's a redefinition of some of the great Petrus such as 1971 and 1961 that didn't have the precision or clarity of today“

Antonio Galloni (95-97): „...The 2015 Pétrus is dark, brooding and also fiercely tannic, which sets it apart from most Pomerols of the year stylistically. Vertical in feel, the 2015 possesses terrific energy and cut to balance the dark, super-ripe fruit. Winemaker Oliver Berrouet adds that the berries were considerable smaller (about 30%) than normal, which resulted in high skin-to-juice ratios consequently musts with high levels of tannin. The 2015 is a vertical, brooding Pétrus that shows little of the early appeal of so many other wines. Readers will have to be especially patient“

DECANTER (97): „...The best yet from winemaker Olivier Berrouet (first vintage 2008). 30% of the crop was declassified. Lots of lift and energy. Lively aromatic expression with floral, dark fruit and liquorice notes. Palate ripe, juicy and refreshing, the texture smooth and polished. Structured attack and then great depth and persistence. Powerful but with charm“.

Plince



18-18,5

25,21 30,00

Intensive, schwarzbeerige Frucht, tolle warme Nase, am Gaumen ganz viel Charme und Schmelz, sehr gute Säure, Tannine sehr präsent, feine Bitterschoko im Finish.

René Gabriel : 17/20: „...Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Verführerisches, dropsig wirkendes Bouquet, viel reife, ja schier überreife Waldbeeren. Im Gaumen wirkt er zwar angenehm trocken, doch irgendwie hat man da doch das Gefühl einen Pomerollikör vor sich zu haben. Woher kommt diese Süsse? Ich denke - momentan ist es die Eiche.“

Neal Martin (89-91): „...The 2015 Plince is a blend of 72% Merlot and 28% Cabernet Franc. It has a broody, sous-bois tinged bouquet, dried flowers tincturing the mulberry fruit that

opens nicely in the glass, but never fully lets go. The palate has pleasing fatness and weight on the entry, grippy tannin, smooth and velvety in texture with a savory, almost meaty edginess on the finish. Drink over the next decade!

James Suckling (92-93): „...Lots of green olive, wet earth and blackberry aromas and flavors. Full and very silky. Plenty of pretty fruit. A majority of merlot with some cabernet franc“

Wine-Spectator (89-92): „...Very fresh, with lively acidity taking the lead, along with fine-grained tannins. Offers delightful raspberry and boysenberry fruit, backed by a warm fruitcake note“

Antonio Galloni (85-87): „...The 2015 Plince offers good depth, but the fruit is overripe and the tannins are green, both of which suggest some imbalance in the vineyard. It's hard to see too much upside here, but time will tell. Plince is 74% Merlot and 26% Cabernet Franc“.

DECANTER (84): „...Soft, supple and easy. Grainy tannins and a surplus of chocolate oak make it awkward on the palate. Finishes hard and dry“

Clos Fontaine 1^{er} Vin



Natürlich es 10.000 Bordeaux unmöglich kann. Aber ich doch erstaunt, großartigen Geld können – zu 100% Merlot alten Ausgebaut Fontaine in

17,5-18



11,72 13,95 weiss ich, dass Erzeuger in gibt und man alles kennen trotzdem bin immer wieder einen Wein für wenig entdecken zu dürfen. von 60 Jahre Rebstöcken. wird Clos Fässern aus

Drittbelegung von Chateaux wie Lafleur, Vieux Chateau Certan oder Ausone.

Sehr schöne, saubere Frucht, Kirschen, viel Kirschen, Sauerkirschen, sehr gute Struktur, sehr gute Balance, super für das Geld.

Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux

Domaine L'Aurage (Mitjaville)

17,5-18

23,95 28,50

Tolle, reife Frucht, dunkle Kirschen, sehr gute Struktur, knackig, lecker, appetitlich, Schoko, Bitterschoko.

Neal Martin (90-92): „...The 2015 Domaine de L'Aurage, the Côtes de Castillon from Louis Mitjaville, has a fragrant and pure blackberry and wild hedgerow scented nose, not intense but very well defined. The palate is supremely well balanced with fine tannin, a little powdery in texture with a hint of dark chocolate complementing the red berry fruit towards the composed and refined finish. What an absolutely beautiful wine in the making“

DECANTER (90): „...Same family as Tertre-Rôteboeuf so opulent and weighty in style. Succulent fruit with a fine quality of tannin. 100% new oak is completely integrated. Accessible early but will age“

Montlandrie (Durantou) 18,5+ 18,07 21,50
Hellere, knackige Frucht, feine, schöne floreale Töne, am Gaumen süß, sehr schöne Süße, sehr schöne Länge, tolle Struktur und Balance.

Bild rechts : www.marie-reilhac.com
Künstlerin und Frau von Denis Durantou

René Gabriel : 17/20: Tiefes Purpur, satt in der Mitte, Granatschimmer am Rand. Das Bouquet wirkt etwas verhalten, zeigt sehr dunkelbeerige Konturen, Schwarzbrotkruste. Im Gaumen ziemlich streng, verlangende Adstringenz. Absolut kein Charmeur, aber das haben die Castillons ja generell nicht an sich

Neal Martin (91-93): „...The 2015 Montlandrie is a blend of 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, picked between September 29 and October 8, and matured in 45% new oak. This is perhaps more precocious on the nose compared to Denis Durantou's La Chenade and Les Cruzelles 2015s, gradually revealing an attractive floral, dried rose petal/pot pourri scent as it opens in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, quite grippy in the mouth, the acidity nicely judged here and again, very harmonious and sensual on the finish. You could almost whisk this out of barrel and drink this now, but preferably, give it 4-5 years in bottle“

James Suckling (92-93): „...A solid core of fruit here. It's so sexy and exotic with juicy fruit, velvety tannins and a long finish. Bright acidity. Loving it“

Wine-Spectator (90-93): „...There's some zing to this, with black currant, cherry and plum fruit laced with a mouthwatering note of dried anise. This gets a floral lift through the finish, with a graphite note building as well“

Antonio Galloni (90-93): „...The 2015 Montlandrie shows just how appealing and delicious the wines of Castillon are this year. Plump, juicy and giving, the 2015 wraps around the palate with striking depth and creaminess. There is plenty of tannin lurking beneath, but it is nearly buried by the intensity of the fruit. Far from an easygoing wine, the 2015 Montlandrie is going to need a few years to be at its best. This is an impressive showing. Montandrie is 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon brought in between September 5 and October 6“

DECANTER (91): „...Owned by Denis Durantou's (L'Eglise-Clinet). Vineyard restructured since 2009. Beautiful Merlot expression: berry fruit with a hint of chocolate. Lovely depth of fruit and tannins. Energy and depth on the palate then tannins build to a long finish“

Lalande de Pomerol

Cruzelles 18-18,5 19,75 23,50
Dichte, kompakte Nase, vollreif+, dunklere Früchte am Gaumen, Charme und Struktur, auch Power, Cassis, sehr gute Länge, sehr gute Tannine.

René Gabriel : 17/20: „...Dunkles Granat, recht satt in der Mitte, rubiner Rand. Dropsiges Bouquet mit leicht stieligen Würznoten. Im Gaumen mit viel schier kompottiger Frucht aufwartend, im Finale eine tolle Holunderexpression, hat Substanz und kann gut altern“

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

James Suckling (92-93): „...This is so on it with velvety tannins and rich fruit. So much fun to taste. Generous and exotic“

Wine-Spectator (90-93): „...Silky and caressing in feel, with gentle rooibos tea, blood orange and raspberry notes that move gracefully, gaining depth through the finish“

Antonio Galloni (87-89): „...The 2015 Lés Cruzelles is terrific. Bright, focused and also generous in the glass, the 2015 balances aromatic intensity with textural richness. Dark red cherry, violet, lavender, mint and wild flowers are all beautifully delineated throughout. There is a sense of energy here that is impossible to miss, while the finish is equally memorable. Lés Cruzelles is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc planted on gravel/clay soils. Harvest took place between September 15 and October 6“.

DECANTER (90): „...Merlot with 10% Cabernet Franc from clay-gravel soils. As consistent as ever this year. Spicy, dark fruit nose which continues on the palate. Super grain of tannin and mid-palate depth. Length and freshness on the finish“

Les Vieux Ormes 17,5-18 12,52 14,90
Schöne, frische Frucht, knackig, sehr gelungen, lang, saftig, sehr schön.

Sauternes / Barsac

Doisy Vedrines 0,75 kB 27,65 32,90
0,375 kB 14,33 17,05

René Gabriel : 18/20: „...Aufhellendes Gelb, einen grünlichen Schimmer zeigend. Intensives Bouquet, frisch gekochte Birnen, eine fein würzige Note zeigend, alles mit gut integrierter Botrytis und zarten Kiefernnoten. Eleganter Gaumenfluss, schön integrierte Säure, er hat viel Druck im Finale. Keine Exotik aber auch nichts Unterreif es, also ein klassischer, sehr gut gelungener «A Point-Barsac“.

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

James Suckling (95-96): „...*This has phenolic tension and power with so much dried fruit character from pineapple to mango. Full, medium sweet and lively. Really excellent*“

Wine-Spectator (93-96): “...A plumper, richer style than most Barsacs, with almond cream, ginger and hazelnut accents starting to develop alongside the orange, apricot and peach flavors. Offers a lovely feel.”

Antonio Galloni (92-95): „...The 2015 Doisy-Védriens might very well be one of the best values in all of Bordeaux. Aromatic intensity is mirrored on the palate, where the wine reveals remarkable depth and richness. A host of apricot jam, wild flowers, honey and hazelnut notes flesh out in the glass. Creamy, unctuous and incredibly inviting, the Doisy-Védriens hits all the right spots. This is a superb showing from the Castèja family“

DECANTER (92): “...Reticent aromas of sweet spices, mango and crystallised ginger emerge slowly with aeration. Rich, dense and tactile, with honeyed tropical fruit, lively lemon and spicy tangerine flavours. Some noble rot, but passerillage (dried grapes) present. From 35-year-old vines, and made with a rare 5% Muscadelle”

Guiraud **0,75** **kB** **35,29** **42,00**

René Gabriel : 20/20: „...Recht dunkles Gelb mit erstem Goldschimmer, brillant. Verrücktes Bouquet; Passionsfrucht, Mango, Kokos, helles Caramel, Orangenblüten, intensiv, aber doch irgendwie delikates, weil er dabei sehr viele, faszinierende Schichten zeigt. Dramatischer Gaumenbeginn, den ganzen Rachenraum belegend, Opulenz und Klasse verbindend, alles ist am richtigen Ort und dieser legendäre Sauternes berührt emotionell. Schon als Fassprobe. Ich behielt ihn minutenlang im Mund und spuckte ihn erst dann langsam aus. Aber nicht ganz. Das wäre viel zu schade gewesen. Was zurück blieb war eine gigantische Retro-Olfaktion welche nochmals alle Aromen kumulierte. Egal ob es eine Gesamtkategorie (weiss, rot, süss) gibt, aber er gehört fraglos zur Spitze. Mit 130 Gramm Restzucker ist er in perfekter Balance. Es sei eine frühe Ernte gewesen, am 2. Oktober war alles gelesen. Mehrere Male verkostet, einmal auf Doisy-Védriens an der grossen Sauternes-Verkostung, einmal auf Canon la Gaffelière mit Stephan Neipperg, dann wieder an der Cercle-Probe auf Bellefont-Belcier“

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

James Suckling (96-97): „...*This is really something. I have never tasted a Guiraud like this. This is full-bodied yet so fresh and incredibly crisp and lively. Spicy and energetic. Fantastic acidity!*“

Wine-Spectator (93-96): “...Very expressive, with nectarine, mirabelle plum, green plum and white peach notes melding well, backed by a pronounced honeysuckle edge. Shows excellent range, with power in reserve”

Antonio Galloni (90-93): „...The 2015 Guiraud is classy, nuanced and understated. Scents of orange peel, crème brûlée, pineapple, mint and sweet spices give the 2015 much of its aromatic lift and intrigue. Deceptively medium in body, the 2015 has quite a bit of depth, but avoids being heavy. There is so much to like here

DECANTER (91): “...Intense honeyed aromas and flavours of quince, gooseberry jelly and aromatic oak; very inviting. Slightly austere palate with a tactile quality to the fresh, spicy orchard fruit flavors. A potentially great Guiraud but I wonder about its deep, almost too evolved colour”

Climens **0,375** **kB** **29,50** **35,10**

René Gabriel : 19/20: „...Mitteldunkles Gelb, somit recht intensiv, leuchtender Rand. Fülliges Bouquet, Mirabellen, getrocknete Kamille, feine Strohnnoten und cerealer Schimmer der aber wahrscheinlich von den Barriquenröstnoten stammt. Im Gaumen mit sublimen Finessen, eine feine Rasse zeigend und im sehr konzentrierten Extrakt zeigend. Gehört fraglos zu den ganz grossen Climensjahrgängen. Genau justieren kann man ihn erst, wenn er abgefüllt sein wird, weil wir den Wein aus verschiedenen Lots direkt aus der Barrique verkosteten“

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

Rieussec **0,75** **kB** **46,13** **54,90**
0,375 **23,57** **28,05**

René Gabriel : 18/20: „...Mitteldunkles Gelb, somit recht intensiv, leuchtender Rand. Intensives Bouquet, Kamille, Honig, kalter Aprikosengelée und einen Hauch von reifen Quitten zeigend, alles vermischt mit einer deutlichen Botrytisnote. Dicklicher, fast öliger Fluss, zeigt einen grossen Reichtum, die Säure hat noch etwas Mühe, diese Opulenz auszugleichen, fast Finale wirkt dann fast etwas übersüss, also fehlt (noch?) die Balance. Potentialwertung:“

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

James Suckling (97-98): „...*The is a phenomenal wine with dried pineapple and pear aromas and flavors. Full, very sweet. Incredible depth and power. Super complex*

Liefer- & Zahlungsbedingungen für Subskription : Auslieferung voraussichtlich im 1. Halbjahr 2018

Alle Endpreise verstehen sich einschließlich Glas, Kiste/Karton und inkl. der derzeit gültigen Mehrwertsteuer in Höhe von 19%. Wir behalten uns vor, Ihnen die Differenz bei einer Mehrwertsteuererhöhung bis zur Auslieferung der Weine nachzubelasten. Nach Ihrer Bestellung erhalten Sie eine Rechnung, welche ohne Abzug innerhalb von 8 Tagen zahlbar ist. Bankeinzüge erfolgen ebenfalls rein netto. Keine Mindestbestellmenge. Ihre Bestellung ist beliebig sortierbar. Unsere Angebote sind stets freibleibend. Ab 24 Flaschen erfolgt die Lieferung an eine Adresse innerhalb von Deutschland frei Haus und auf Risiko der Bacchus-Vinotek. Bei Mindermengen verrechnen wir folgende, anteilige Frachtkosten: 1-18 Fl. = EUR 9,-/Sendung und 19-23 Flaschen = EUR 9,-. Keine Gewähr für angegebene Punktebewertungen. Ansonsten gelten die **Allgemeinen Geschäftsbedingungen** (siehe Homepage).