



2022 BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR

There is no doubt that 2022 is a thrilling vintage for Red Bordeaux. Our tastings this spring revealed reds at all levels that have pure, ripe fruit, rich textures and impressive structures, with harmonising freshness and surprisingly fine tannins. For many châteaux, 2022 was the hottest and one of the driest ever experienced, leading to harvest dates that were the earliest on record. Yet the best of these wines show no signs of over-ripeness, having well balanced alcohol and acidity, with remarkable vibrancy and finesse.

Weather Conditions

The winter of 2021-2022 was mild and dry, with December rainfall allowing the ground to build up its precious water reserves. A few nights of negative temperatures in early April forced many to protect their vineyards against frost, but fortunately it caused little damage. Favourable, dry, warm conditions prevailed throughout flowering in mid-May, taking place quickly and evenly – this uniform flowering was an initial marker of the healthy development of the vintage. Late May alternated heat wave temperatures (up to 40° C) with precipitation, in most areas falling as light rain but in some coming as violent storms. Hail damage, which was quite severe in some cases, fortunately remained extremely localised. This precipitation helped to prepare the vines for the summer that lay ahead of them.

And what a summer it was, with the hours of sunshine from June to September being the highest recorded since 1949. Remarkably intense and unusually long heat waves followed one another, including a two-week spell from 31st July-13th August, with highs, once again, of 40°C. Thanks to the replenished water reserves and the occasional, reviving – if brief - summer shower, the vines were able to withstand the drought. This enabled balanced ripening of the grapes, with valuable vine foliage remaining green. Harvest began in early September, with beautiful, anticyclonic conditions making it possible for growers to pick each grape variety at optimum ripeness.

Why are these 2022 reds so harmonious?

Over recent decades, Bordeaux winemakers have needed to adapt their vineyard management and winemaking practices in order to respond to more regular seasons marked by weather extremes, most notably in 2022, heat and drought. There were certainly examples of wines that we tasted which were negatively impacted by these extremes, having over-ripe fruit, pronounced alcohols and bitter tannins — wines that we rejected from our selections. But for those who had learnt from past years and were in tune with this in their vineyards and wineries, the results have been exceptional. "Picking date was crucial," we were told by François-Xavier Borie of Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste. "It was our earliest ever harvest. At the end of August, we had to watch the vines extremely closely, with picking starting with the Merlots on 7th September — when fruit ripeness, acidity levels and maturation of skins were in perfect balance." He continued: "The berries were very small and tightly concentrated, both in aromatics and valuable acidity. In the winery, extractions needed to be very gentle, at cooler temperatures, before and in the earlier stages of fermentation. This avoided the extraction of any harsh tannins. The result? 2022 is one of the best 5 vintages I have made, alongside 1982, 1996, 2005 and 2010."

Edouard Moueix of Etablissements Jean-Pierre Moueix told us "We did not practice leaf removal in the first half on the summer in order to preserve enough shade to protect the grapes from the sun and avoid stewed fruit aromas. Precise grooming and green harvesting allowed us to adapt the yields to the extreme climatic conditions of this vintage. The skins grew thick, the tannins soft, and the fruit intense."

This is a vintage where Second wines of well-known names have surprised us in their intensity, elegance and length of flavour - and a number of these feature in the pages ahead. Our selections, as ever, have concentrated on beautiful wines with excellent potential, and which have been released at sensible prices. These we recommend most warmly.

These wines are offered in bond UK, for delivery during 2025.

Key

12b 12 bottles6m 6 magnums

At a Glance

Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc 2022	2b	£147.00
Château Peymouton, Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2022	2b	£160.00
Château La Mission, Lalande de Pomerol 2022	2b	£180.00
Château La Tour de Bessan, Margaux 2022	2b	£180.00
Château Ségur de Cabanac, Saint-Estèphe 2022	2b	£192.00
Château Picque Caillou, Pessac-Léognan 2022	2b	£197.00
Château Chantalouette, Pomerol 2022	2b	£200.00
Château Haut-Bages Monpelou, Pauillac 2022	2b	£214.00
Blason d`Issan, Margaux 2022	2b	£228.00
Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac 2022	2b	£242.00
Château Moulin de la Rose, Saint-Julien 2022	2b	£264.00
Château Cantemerle, 5ème Cru Classé Haut-Médoc 2022	2b	£266.00
Château Lagrange, Pomerol 2022	2b	£295.00
Château Latour-Martillac Rouge, Grand Cru Classé Pessac-Léognan 2022	2b	£315.00
Château du Domaine de l'Église, Pomerol 2022	2b	£340.00
Château Lafleur-Gazin, Pomerol 2022	2b	£350.00
Château Batailley, 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022	2b	£372.00
La Dame de Montrose, Saint-Estephe 2022	6b	£189.00
Les Griffons de Pichon Baron, Pauillac 2022	6b	£192.00
Château Pédesclaux, 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022	2b	£398.50
Château Lafon-Rochet, 4ème Cru Classé, Saint Estèphe 2022	2b	£420.00
Château Bourgneuf, Pomerol 2022	2b	£545.00
Château Berliquet, Saint-Emilion Grand Cru Classé 2022	6b	£274.00
Château d`Issan, 3ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022	6b	£306.00
Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022	6b	£357.50
Château Brane-Cantenac, 2ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022	6b	£360.00
Château TrotteVieille, Saint-Emilion Premier Grand Cru Classé 2022	6b	£372.00
Château Certan de May, Pomerol 2022	6b	£595.00
Château Hosanna, Pomerol 2022	6b	£700.00
Château Pichon Longueville Baron, 2ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022	6b	£810.00
Château Bélair-Monange, 1er Grand Cru Classé Saint-Emilion 2022	6b	£850.00
Château Pichon Comtesse de Lalande, 2ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022	6b	£1032.00
Château La Fleur-Pétrus, Pomerol 2022	6b	£1130.00
Château Palmer, 3ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022	6b	£1788.00
Château Picque Caillou blanc, Pessac-Léognan 2022	6b	£98.50

Red Bordeaux

Château Mauvesin-Barton Moulis-en-Médoc 2022

12b 147.00

6m 162.00

Lilian and Michel Barton Sartorius acquired this property in August 2011, with daughter Mélanie installed as winemaker since 2013. They bring the same expertise and experience to bear here as at their Saint-Julien châteaux, Langoa- and Léoville-Barton, which have been in the Barton family for eight generations. In 2022, Merlot makes up 55% of the blend, Cabernet Sauvignon 36%, Cabernet Franc 9%, currently ageing in 1/3 new oak barrels. "It is quite a cool terroir at Mauvesin," Lilian told us in April 2023. "There is a lot of clay in the vineyards which helped to retain precious water. And we have a number of natural springs, which help create a cooler microclimate." This may explain the vibrant freshness and clarity of fruit of this 2022, which is the best Mauvesin we remember tasting young. Colour is deep ruby-purple, the nose being fragrant and ripe. Palate is full, with bright fruitiness, acidity and tannins in fine balance, and lovely length (for drinking 2027-2035+).



Château Peymouton Grand Cru Saint-Emilion 2022

12b 160.00

6m 175.00

Owned by the same family as - and sharing management with - the Grand Cru Classé Château Laroque, this is a modestly-priced Saint-Emilion whose 2022 blend consists of 89% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Cabernet Franc. Colour is bright, ruby-purple, aromas being charmingly perfumed and ripe. Palate shows full, supple body, fleshy fruitiness, and a fresh, finely tannic aftertaste (for drinking 2025-2029+).



Château La Mission Lalande de Pomerol 2022

12b 180.00

6m 195.00

Château La Mission's jewel-sized vineyard (measuring just 2 hectares) lies on the south-western edge of the Lalande de Pomerol appellation, bordering Pomerol. Vine age averages 40 years, this 2022 being a blend of 75% Merlot with 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Malbec. Here is a wine that is silky, full and attractive. Deep in colour, aromas are freshly spicy leading to a palate that has solid, pure fruitiness and a freshly tannic, harmonious finish (for drinking 2026-2032+).



Château La Tour de Bessan Margaux 2022

12b 180.00 6m 195.00

This is one of the unsung beauties of Margaux and one of its greatest values. Its links with England go back to 1433, when the medieval castle was given by Henry VI to the Duke of Gloucester. It has been owned and run since 1992 by Marie-Laure Lurton, helped by the Boissenot consultancy, which looks after a great number of the top Haut-Médoc properties. The vines are carefully tended to respect the natural environment, with Terra Vitis certification in place since 2003. Merlot makes up 49.5% of the 2022 blend, with Cabernet Sauvignon 44% and Petit Verdot 6.5%. Colour is rich purple, the nose being perfumed, with pure cassis and violet notes - a classically scented Margaux. Superbly ripened grapes ensure that the palate is suavely textured and deep in fruitiness. Acidity is in fine balance, as are mouth-coating, gentle, charming tannins (for drinking 2026-2034+).



Château Ségur de Cabanac Saint-Estèphe 2022

12b 192.00

6m 207.00

The vineyards of the Delon family's small, 7-hectare Saint-Estèphe property lie on gravel slopes overlooking the Gironde estuary. Being so close to the river, they benefit from its tempering effect, reducing extremes of temperature and giving rise to gentle breezes - useful tools during the heat of the 2022 summer. Average vine age is 30 years, planted 60% with Cabernet Sauvignon, with Merlot the balance. The wine is ageing in 30% new barrels, and is bright purple-ruby in colour. The nose shows appetising, red and black berry fruitiness, the palate having impressive structure, rounded body, and excellent middle concentration, finishing with supple, fresh length. At £16 per bottle, in bond, this is a super buy this year (for drinking 2027-2037+).



Château Picque Caillou Pessac-Léognan 2022

12b 197.00

6m 212.00

Paulin and Isabelle Calvet took over this property in 1993, and consistently make one of Bordeaux's greatest value, classically styled reds. In 2022, the blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, with 5% Petit Verdot, the final Grand Vin bottling representing 70% of the property's production (the rest being destined for the estate's Second wine). Currently ageing in 40% new barrels, colour is rich and deep, having very attractive cassis and violet aromas - fresh and open. Palate is intensely structured, with beguiling, firmly concentrated fruitiness and suave texture. There is more power here than in recent vintages, tannins being fine, length being long and satisfying (for drinking 2030-2042+).



Château Chantalouette Pomerol 2022

12b 200.00

6m 215.00

This is the Second wine of Château de Sales, which is one of Pomerol's best loved traditional properties, owned by the de Lambert family for over 5 centuries. Certified of "High Environmental Value" (HVE) since 2020, Chantalouette practices viticulture that integrates and develops biodiversity, bringing life and insect activity into their gravel and sandy soils. A blend of 72% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 13% Cabernet Sauvignon, in 2022 they have produced a wine of beautiful, supple, energetic fruitiness. Gentle tannins merge with refreshing acidity to give a harmonious, succulent Pomerol (for drinking 2026-2032+).



Château Haut-Bages Monpelou Pauillac 2022

12b 214.00

6m 229.00

This château's vines are superbly situated on the plateau of one of Pauillac's best sectors, rubbing shoulders with vineyards belonging to Batailley and Grand-Puy-Lacoste. Until 1948, it formed part of the 4th Growth Château Duhart-Milon, and it has been under the ownership of the Castéja family of Château Batailley since 1970. Assembled from 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc, here we have a Pauillac of beautiful perfume, lift, precision and poise. Full in body, it has rich, scented fruitiness and a fresh, complete, finely tannic finish (for drinking 2028-2037+).



Blason d`Issan Margaux 2022

12b 228.00

6m 243.00

Dependably one of the best Second labels to be found in Bordeaux, Blason d'Issan is predominantly sourced from the walled Clos d'Issan (dating back to 1644), where deep gravels overlie a vein of clay. It is this moisture-retaining, cool clay that lends itself so well to Merlot, which in 2022 makes up 55% of the blend, the balance being 44% Cabernet Sauvignon and 1% Petit Verdot. Colour is bright ruby-purple, aromas being wonderfully perfumed and ripe. Palate starts full and supple, having charming, super-silky texture, well-built middle and a fresh, gentle finish (for drinking 2028-2035+).



Lacoste-Borie Pauillac 2022

12b 242.00

6m 257.00

This Second wine of Grand-Puy-Lacoste frequently appears on our list, offering great value for an elegant, impeccably made Pauillac. In 2022 the blend is 56% Cabernet Sauvignon with 35% Merlot and 9% Cabernet Franc, ageing in 50% new barrels. Good purple colour with open, very pure cassis and pencil lead aromas, this is a charming Lacoste-Borie, brimming with attractive fruit and ample flesh. The finish is harmonious, fresh and long-flavoured (to drink from 2028–2037+).



Château Moulin de la Rose Saint-Julien 2022

12b 264.00

6m 279.00

This tiny 5-hectare estate nestles among the Saint-Julien Classed Growths, adjoining world-famous names: Léovilles Barton and Las Cases, Gruaud-Larose, and Ducru-Beaucaillou. Planted 60% with Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot, it is part of the Guy Delon family, now ably run by Guy's children, Jean-François and Guylène. In 2022, this is a pristine expression of Saint-Julien. Deep purple-ruby, with scented fruitiness on the nose, palate is immediately attractive, having a finely concentrated, delicately spiced middle, taut frame and a gently tannic, well-balanced finish (for drinking 2028-2040+).



Château Cantemerle 5ème Cru Classé Haut-Médoc 2022

12b 266.00

6m 281.00

Quality at Cantemerle has been regularly climbing, as extensive vineyard re-plantings of the early 1980s have now reached full maturity. Deeply rooted vines ensured regular access to moisture during the parched summer of 2022. The assemblage is 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, now ageing in 40% new oak barrels. Colour is deep ruby, with lively, delicately spiced blackcurrant aromas. Palate shows intense, generous fruitiness, with well-judged balance of refreshing, mineral acidity and fine tannins. This promises elegant complexity and smoothness after mid-term ageing (for drinking 2026-2038+).



Château Lagrange Pomerol 2022

12b 295.00

6m 310.00

This property has been in the Jean-Pierre Moueix stable since 1953, and today is one of their most lusciously charming Pomerols. It is 100% planted with Merlot vines, lying predominantly on heavy clay soils, which were helpful in the retention of valuable water in the dry summer of 2022. Deep purple-ruby, its nose shows lovely clarity of perfumed red fruits, being vibrant and ripe. This is a refreshing style of Pomerol, having pure, precise fruitiness, creamy texture and a finely tannic aftertaste (for drinking 2026-2034+).



Château Latour-Martillac Rouge Grand Cru Classé Pessac-Léognan 2022

12b 315.00

6m 330.00

This property has been run passionately by the Kressman family for 3 generations, who we believe make one of Pessac-Léognan's most superb, finely balanced classed growths. The 2022 assemblage consists of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot with 8% Petit Verdot, now ageing in 40% new barrels. Very deep in colour, aromas are lifted and vital: cassis, black fruits, violet. Palate starts full and tautly structured, with intense, pure mid-palate, and elegant, silky tannins. This is a thirst-quenching wine, with excellent focus, and admirable length (for drinking 2030-2040+).



Château du Domaine de l'Église Pomerol 2022

12b 340.00

6m 355.00

Founded in the 16th century, Domaine de l'Eglise is believed to be Pomerol's oldest property, the vines bordering famous names towards the north of the appellation's central plateau, including La Fleur-Pétrus and L'Eglise Clinet. Under Castéja family ownership, in recent years it has been receiving the tightly focused attention it deserves. This is a property which is clearly on an upward trajectory, the outstanding 2020 vintage being the first that we purchased En Primeur. A blend of 98% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc, from 60-70-year-old vines, this is very deep purple colour, having beautiful aromas of plum, cocoa and floral black fruits. The palate has richness, power and excellent density, texture being voluptuous, tannins ripe, fine and fresh. This is a succulent, well balanced, fluid Pomerol, with well-sustained length (for drinking 2028-2040+).



Château Lafleur-Gazin Pomerol 2022

12b 350.00

6m 365.00

The vines of Lafleur-Gazin lie on the northern edge of the clay-rich, central plateau of Pomerol, between two famous neighbours: Châteaux Gazin and Lafleur. The vineyards have been managed by Ets. Jean-Pierre Moueix since 1973, on behalf of the owners. Merlot grapes once again make up 100% of the wine in 2022, which shows ruby-purple colour of medium depth. Nose is attractive, rich and ripe; palate is plump and powerfully fruity whilst having finesse and lift. This is an elegant Pomerol with lovely, harmonious, long-flavoured length (for drinking 2026-2037+).



Château Batailley 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022

12b 372.00

6m 387.00

The Castéja family has poured huge investment into Batailley over recent years, and quality has climbed impressively. The results are very much in evidence with this superb 2022, which is a blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, currently ageing in 55% new oak barrels. Philippe Castéja told us, "A few days before harvesting, we learned with amazement of the disappearance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This news particularly struck us because the Palace has regularly served Château Batailley - it was with the 1947 vintage that the Queen and Prince Philip celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. To mark our thanks to the Queen, it seemed natural to dedicate this 2022 vintage to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in memory of her friendship for France, Bordeaux, and our wines." As such, this 2022 will be delivered with a unique label, created in her honour.



Opaque ruby-purple in the glass, aromas are attractively ripe and tightly scented, with notes of cassis, spice and liquorice. The palate is full, layered and vibrant, having a very fine, linear structure and densely concentrated middle. It finishes persistently and with silky, harmonious tannins (for drinking 2030-2045+).

La Dame de Montrose Saint-Estephe 2022

6b 189.00

3m 204.00

La Dame de Montrose was first created in 1983, in tribute to Yvonne Charmolüe, who ran Château Montrose single-handedly from 1944 to 1960. It is made to the same rigorous standards as the property's Grand Vin, and is sourced from the same vineyards, however with supple, silky Merlot (rather than Cabernet Sauvignon) dominating the blend, thus giving a different expression of the terroir. In 2022, this is a blend of 71% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Colour is deep purple, aromas having lovely clarity and focus. Palate is medium bodied, precisely structured and full of energy. This is an elegant Saint-Estèphe, the finish being finely chiselled and full of finesse (for drinking 2030-2045+).



Les Griffons de Pichon Baron Pauillac 2022

6b 192.00

3m 207.00

Les Griffons is one of the Second wines of Château Pichon Baron, and was first created with the 2012 vintage. Whereas the property's other Second wine, Tourelles de Longueville, is built on Merlot, the grapes for Griffons come primarily from gravelly plots near the Gironde estuary - where Cabernet Sauvignon also excels. 2022 marks our first vintage listing this wine, which shone at our En Primeur tastings in April. Colour is deep ruby-purple, aromas boasting concentrated, ripe black fruits. This is a full, focussed, silky mouthful, with beautiful purity of spiced cassis and graphite flavours - classically Pauillac. The finish is appetising, long-flavoured and harmoniously tannic (for drinking 2030-2042+).



Château Pédesclaux 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022

12b 398.50

6m 413.50

The Lorenzetti family acquired this Pauillac property in 2009, other interests on the Left Bank including Château d'Issan in Margaux and, most recently, Saint-Estèphe's Lafon-Rochet, purchased from the Tesseron family in 2021. With vineyards bordering those of Pontet Canet and Mouton, the 2022 vintage marks a milestone for Pédesclaux, being the first that has received certification for organic viticulture. Celebrating this with a smartly redesigned label, the blend in 2022 is 68% Cabernet Sauvignon with 22% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, currently ageing in 65% new oak barrels. Colour is rich and deep, aromas having piercing clarity of ripe cassis fruit. Palate is full, polished and beautifully expressive, having excellent core of lush fruit, refined, clearly-defined, mineral structure and a suavely textured, spicy finish (for drinking 2030-2045+).



Château Lafon-Rochet 4ème Cru Classé, Saint Estèphe 2022

12b 420.00

6m 435.00

2022 marks the start of a new chapter at Lafon-Rochet, being the first produced under the ownership of the Lorenzetti family. Advantageously sandwiched between Cos d'Estournel and Lafite, the Tesseron family were owners here for 60 years, the last decade seeing a transformation in quality. Considerable investments in both the winery and in organic and biodynamic cultivation has resulted in this becoming one of the most exciting estates in the Médoc. This is Christophe Congé's first vintage as Managing Director here, his 20 years working as Oenologist and Wine Operations Manager at neighbouring Lafite having prepared him well. Eric Boissenot (famed for his guidance at many top Medoc châteaux) continues his support as winemaking consultant.



The 2022 Lafon-Rochet is evidence that the continued work and investment is paying qualitative dividends. It has been assembled from 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. Impressive purple-ruby, with complex, fragrant aromas, this is full-bodied and intense, with exceptional fruit focus, creamy texture, and harmonious brightness of acidity. This is a refined, classically built Saint-Estèphe, with gravitas and charm (for drinking 2030-2050+).

Château Bourgneuf Pomerol 2022

12b 545.00

6m 560.00

We regularly fall for Château Bourgneuf when tasting it En Primeur – this 2022 is outstanding for its intensely concentrated, uplifting, cherry-scented aroma, and intense power with energy on the palate. Owned by the Vayron family since 1821, the vineyard is situated in the heart of Pomerol's most prestigious terroirs, with Château Trotanoy as its neighbour. The blend in 2022 is 85% Merlot with 15% Cabernet Franc. Colour is deep purple, aromas being open and abundant. Full and suave in the mouth, this has ample fruit, notable freshness with and very fine tannins. This is a classically formed Pomerol, which will reward bottle age (for drinking 2027-2044+).



Château Berliquet Saint-Emilion Grand Cru Classé 2022

6b 274.00

3m 289.00

Close to the southern edge of the village of Saint-Emilion, Château Berliquet's 6.5 hectares of vines lie between those of Châteaux Canon and Bélair-Monange. In 2017 it was purchased by the Chanel group, owners of Canon and Rauzan-Ségla, with head winemaker, Nicholas Audebert, working across the three properties. Without doubt, Berliquet has been benefitting from heavy investments that continue to be made in the vineyards and winery. With the restructuring of the vineyard, the proportion of Cabernet Franc has been increasing, this 2022 comprising 35% Cabernet Franc, with Merlot the balance. Convinced by the results obtained last year, they have doubled their capacity of ageing in amphorae, which they believe brings more purity of fruit expression and length to the finished wine – in 2022, 10% of the wine is being matured this way. Tasting in April 2023, this is a more serious Berliquet than we have seen in recent vintages. Mid ruby colour, it has a captivating Saint-Emilion perfume, with nuanced, rose petal and red fruit aromas. Palate is full bodied, with excellent, layered middle fruit, and graceful, silky mouthfeel. The finish is long and incredibly fine (for drinking 2030-2045+).



Château d`Issan 3ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022

6b 306.00

3m 321.00

Jacky Lorenzetti took a 50% stake in the Cruse family's d'Issan estate in 2013, this being one of our favourite Margaux addresses, thanks to the exceptional finesse of their wines. Emmanuel Cruse continues at the helm, where he and his team have excelled with this 2022 vintage. Cabernet Sauvignon comprises 65% of the blend, with 30% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec and 1% Petit Verdot (from ungrafted vines, planted in 1947) adding complexity and extra layers. These are currently maturing in 50% new oak barrels. Bright purple-ruby in colour, aromas are highly scented and fine. Palate has tight concentration, showing generous fruitiness, fine structure and uplifting lightness of step, carrying to a long, silky finish. Here we have a beautifully harmonious Margaux which exudes elegance (for drinking 2030-2048+).



Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste 5ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022

6b 357.50

3m 372.50

This beautiful wine is made by one of the most adept, classic wine makers in Bordeaux, owner François-Xavier Borie, assisted by his daughter Emeline. 2022 is François-Xavier's 44th vintage: "2022 is one of the best 5 Grand-Puy-Lacostes I have made, alongside 1982, 1996, 2005 and 2010," he told us in April 2023. "It was our earliest ever harvest. At the end of August, we had to watch the vines extremely closely, with picking starting with the Merlots on 7th September – when fruit ripeness, acidity levels and maturation of skins were in perfect balance." He continued: "The berries were very small and tightly concentrated, both in aromatics and valuable acidity." We cannot argue with François-Xavier, for this 2022 is a magnificent Grand-Puy-Lacoste. A blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon with 21% Merlot, ageing in 75% new barrels, colour is deep, aromas being tightly layered, with scented black fruits. This is splendid and perfectly balanced on the palate, being centred on finesse and poise. A full, intensely flavoured start leads to a beautiful, silky follow-through, finishing with great length (for drinking 2032-2050+).



Château Brane-Cantenac 2ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022

6b 360.00

3m 375.00

Henri Lurton has once again created an exceptional wine at Brane-Cantenac in 2022. He dedicates this wine to his father, Lucien, who was one of the great winemakers of his generation, and who sadly passed away in March 2023 - two years short of his 100th birthday. The 2022 blend consists of 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot, and 1% each of Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Carmenère. The press wines were of such fine quality that they make up a record 15.8% of the Grand Vin, which comes solely from the deep-gravel hummocks of the plateau near the chateau. Amphora as well as new barrels are being used for the ageing. Colour is dark ruby-purple, aromas being extrovert and complex: black fruits, mint, cedar wood - very alluring. Palate has full body, powerfully intense fruit and a well-defined structure. Tannins are ripe and well-balanced, finishing long and complete (for drinking 2030-2050+).



Château TrotteVieille 1er Grand Cru Classé Saint-Emilion 2022

6b 372.00

3m 387.00

Château TrotteVieille is a superbly situated vineyard, near the walls and moat of Saint-Emilion. It was purchased by the Castéja family of Château Batailley in 1947: "My Grandfather always loved the wine of this property," Frédéric Castéja told us. "When the owners wanted to sell it, he was a natural fit." The family has made significant investments, most recently with the construction of a radically up-graded, gravity-fed winery, which allows for more focussed individual vinifications, plot by plot. These investments have been paying off, as this 2022 is one of the Right Bank's greatest success stories this vintage. 50% Cabernet Franc, with 45% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, colour is deep purple, aromas being captivatingly vibrant: floral black and red fruits. Palate is gorgeously velvety, suave and tightly concentrated, with impeccable balance of power and freshness. This is a sensitively made, beautifully proportioned Saint-Emilion, which boasts purity and energy (for drinking 2028-2045+).



Château Certan de May Pomerol 2022

6b 595.00

3m 610.00

This property is superbly situated, lying between two of Pomerol's greatest, rarest names: Vieux Château Certan and Château Lafleur. This is at the heart of Pomerol's greatest sector, the siliceous-clay, central plateau. Certan de May is tiny, with just over 5 hectares of vineyard, and has benefitted from the consultancy input of Jean-Claude Berrouet (who made more than 40 vintages at Pétrus) since 2013. The 2022 blend is 60% Merlot with 30% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, giving a Pomerol that shows personality and refinement, with great potential for ageing. Colour is deep purple-ruby, aromas being alluringly layered and fragrant - red and black fruits with floral, spicy complexity. Palate starts splendidly rich and deeply flavoured, having generous fleshiness, broad structure and seamless tannins, carrying to a superb length. This is an outstanding Certan de May, having power and elegance (for drinking 2030-2042+).



Château Hosanna Pomerol 2022

6b 700.00 3m 715.00

This is one of Pomerol's smallest properties (just over 4 hectares in production), regularly giving one of its most complex and thrillingly succulent wines. In 2022, Hosanna has particularly impressive, fresh perfume and mouthcoating richness, thanks to the produce of the old vine plots having been exceptional this year. Some of these date back to 1956. Cabernet Franc represents 26% of the blend, the balance being Pomerol's classic grape, Merlot, now ageing in 50% new French oak barrels. Colour is deep purple, aromas being gorgeous, lifted and appetising. Palate is full and supple, with characteristic, dense fleshiness and incredibly fine, velvety tannins. The finish has poise and stunning freshness, with outstanding length (for drinking 2030-2045+).



Château Pichon Longueville Baron 2ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022

6b 810.00 3m 825.00

This year's Pichon-Baron consists of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon and 19% Merlot, ageing 70% in new oak, the balance being in one-year-old barrels. "Focussing on keeping freshness and finesse was key in 2022," said Pierre Montégut, who is in his first year as Technical Director here, following the retirement of Jean-René Matignon. He added "We took care not to extract too much – our priority was to preserve elegance, and not make too powerful a wine." In colour, the wine is very rich and deep, aromas being distinguished and ripely aromatic. Palate is full, deep and unctuously textured, having tightly-woven, mineral fruitiness, velvety tannins and harmonious, outstanding length. We strongly recommend this great Pichon Baron, for mid- and long-term keeping (for drinking 2032-2055+).



Château Bélair-Monange 1er Grand Cru Classé Saint-Emilion 2022

6b 850.00

3m 865.00

The vineyards of Bélair-Monange occupy some of the choicest plots of the appellation, in three sectors - on the limestone plateau, on terraces adjoining it, and on south-facing, steep hillsides. The Moueix family bought the château in 2008, and did not delay in making considerable investments in the vineyards. The finishing touches are now being put to the new winery, which will open its doors with the 2023 vintage. Tasting this 2022 alongside two of the Moeuix family's top-class Pomerol estates, Hosanna and La Fleur-Pétrus, Bélair-Monange is striking for its dancing acidity, delicacy of aromatics and mineral finesse - its Saint-Emilion pedigree is very much in evidence. An assemblage of 98% Merlot with 2% Cabernet Franc, colour is ruby-purple of medium depth, aromas being outstandingly intense and alluringly scented: fresh red cherry, raspberry, cherry blossom... Palate is full, intricately structured and has wonderful concentration, wrapped in silky-smooth tannins. The length goes on and on. This shows the outstanding elegance of which Saint-Emilion is capable, being one of the greatest wines of the 2022 vintage (for drinking 2030-2048+).



Château Pichon Comtesse de Lalande 2ème Cru Classé Pauillac 2022

6b 1032.00 3m 1047.00

2022 is a gorgeous vintage for this great château, which has made a beguiling, sensuous wine. This is Technical Director, Nicolas Glumineau's tenth vintage, and he unashamedly labels it as his best: "Stylistically, our vision has been achieved this year," he told us in April 2023. "The balance we now have in the vineyard, our precise picking schedule and the unwavering focus we have in the cellar has given a wine that is silky, sapid, mineral, aromatic." Cabernet Sauvignon accounts for 78% of the assemblage, Merlot 17%, Cabernet Franc 5%. Colour is solid purple-ruby to the rim, with aromas showing lusciously fragrant black fruits character - very mouth-watering. Palate is full-bodied, profoundly fruity, creamily textured, with opulent aftertaste and stunning length (for drinking 2032-2055+).



Château La Fleur-Pétrus Pomerol 2022

6b 1130.00

3m 1145.00

The vineyards of La Fleur-Pétrus lie in three sectors, all on the central Pomerol plateau. Partly they are close to Pétrus itself, partly they are from adjoining land, planted mainly with old Merlots, which was acquired in the mid-1990s. During the 2000s, further primely positioned vines were purchased, located around Château Hosanna and between Trotanoy and Le Pin. 96.5% Merlot, with 3% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Petit Verdot make up the blend in 2022. Glistening ruby-purple in the glass, aromas are intensely concentrated, recalling red and black cherries - sweet, spicy and freshly fragrant. Full and broadly built, tightly-woven fruit flavours unfurl on the palate revealing a wine of underlying power and great depth. Texture is luscious and rounded, the finish being super-fine and gloriously long. Quality at this property seems to get better and better, and this is undoubtedly one of the most stunningly harmonious wines of the vintage (for drinking 2030-2045+).



Château Palmer 3ème Cru Classé Margaux 2022

6b 1788.00

3m 1803.00

Palmer has fully embraced bio-dynamic production, 2022 being its ninth vintage to be certified as such. The results are striking. Thriving soils and old vines, whose roots run deep, can partly be thanked for the amazing harmony, brightness of fruit and purity of acidity in Palmer's 2022 Grand Vin. Painstakingly meticulous work by the vineyard and winemaking teams also plays its invaluable part. A blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, this is once again a profound Margaux, boasting extraordinary perfume, power with precision, and the greatest finesse (for drinking 2032-2055+).



Dry White

2022 is not a stand-out year for the sweet, botrytised white wines of Bordeaux, as such we do not offer any here, En Primeur. However, for dry whites there are some excellent examples, which have aromatic richness and supporting freshness. We highly recommend the following, which offers great value for the quality.

Château Picque Caillou blanc Pessac-Léognan 2022

6b 98.50

In 2022, Paulin Calvet has produced an excellent Picque Caillou blanc, which has richness and vibrancy. Early picking was key to its success, the Sauvignon Blanc (90% of the blend) was picked between 16th and 27th August; the Semillon (10%) on 24th August. Aged for 7 months in oak barrels (25% new), colour is very pale lemon-green, aromas being piercingly aromatic, recalling spiced grapefruit and lime, with an attractive hint of smoke. Palate is full bodied and expressive, being rich and supple without heaviness, and having alert fruit flavours. The finish is racy and elegant (for drinking 2024-2028+).



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Supplements for Special Format Bottlings

Bottle Sizes	Units Per Case	£ per Case
Half bottles	24x37.5cl	30.00
Double Magnums	3x300cl	120.00
Imperial	1x600cl	75.00

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Prices in this offer are quoted 'in bond' per case as marked. Once shipped to the UK, they will incur duty and VAT upon release from bonded warehouse. Any wines not delivered by our own delivery vehicles will be subject to a carriage charge.

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We are able to arrange under bond transfers of all the wines in this offer, at no charge. If you would be interested in setting up a storage facility with Nexus Wine Collections, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

For further information or to place an order

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