



**GRAND
VIN**
WINE MERCHANTS



THE OUTSTANDING 2016 BORDEAUX VINTAGE FUTURES

1003 4th Avenue E • Olympia, WA | 360.350.4896 | grandvinwinemERCHANTS.com



2016 Bordeaux: An Introduction

Earlier this month I led our teams from the UK & the USA to numerous château tastings of over 500 of the top Bordeaux. **This was my 32nd year of tasting barrel samples and it has been undeniably one of the most impressive vintages in all my years of coming to Bordeaux.** Many of you know we own Château Carignan in the Côtes de Bordeaux, and as such I was present during the buildup to the harvest. I therefore experienced firsthand the weather conditions approaching and during the harvest. Unlike 2015, when the communes of Saint-Julien, Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe suffered from the rains, **2016 is of exceptional quality throughout all regions producing red wines.** A wonderful purity of fresh ripe fruit, with super ripe tannins and balance, permeates the entire crop. **There are outstanding wines for everyone's budget.**

Andy Lench, Chairman and Founder of Bordeaux Wine Locators

"I've now tasted more than 1,000 wines from the 2016 vintage in Bordeaux. I can again confirm that it's an excellent year, producing dynamic and well-structured wines that are fresh and balanced. These wines represent the new renaissance of Bordeaux where harmony, refinement and energy are the new keywords for the region — not raw power and high alcohol. Bordeaux is back."
- James Suckling

THE TOP WINES

MARGAUX

The first commune as you head northwards up the Medoc. Another exceptional year for this commune. Leaders Châteaux Margaux & Palmer are vying for top Margaux this year closely followed by Rauzan Segla, Giscours, Malescot St Exupery, Brane Cantenac, D'Issan and many others too numerous to mention.

SAINT-JULIEN

This commune continues from Margaux and borders Pauillac in the north. Much more successful this year than 2015 with many exceptional wines lead by Ducru Beaucaillou, Leoville Barton, Leoville Poyferre and followed closely by Saint Pierre, Gruaud Larose, Gloria, Leoville Las Cases and Clos Du Marquis.

PAUILLAC

The commune with the greatest number of Medoc First Growths. Pauillac has probably had its best ever vintage this year with two wines vying potentially for the wines of the vintage, those being Lafite Rothschild & Mouton Rothschild. This is clearly the best Lafite barrel sample I have ever tasted. There are so many other superb wines, Latour, Pontet Canet, Pichon Baron—possibly the best ever! Pichon Lalande, Lynch Bages which reminds me of the great 1982.



Grand Puy Lacoste, a favorite of the trade, to Petit Mouton, Les Forts De Latour, Carruades De Lafite, Clerc Milon & Armailhac. You really cannot go wrong here.

SAINT-ESTEPHE

The most northerly commune of the Medoc has had its greatest vintage since 1982. There are three stand out wines Cos d'Estournel, Montrose & Calon Segur followed by Haut Marbuzet & Les Ormes De Pez.

PESSAC-LEOGNAN ROUGE

Here we have a superb Haut Brion & La Mission Haut Brion followed by Les Carmes Haut Brion, Haut Bailly, the best Domaine De Chevalier ever, Pape Clement, Smith Haut Lafite and many other great wines.

PESSAC-LEOGNAN BLANC

Unfortunately the dry whites do not have the outstanding hallmark of the reds and given the historic nature of the vintage are disappointing. Given the superb recent vintages it would be difficult to recommend any of these wines.

SAINT-EMILION

Wow do we have some outstanding wines here eclipsed by Cheval Blanc possibly as good as the 100 point 1998 and a candidate for wine of the vintage. This is the best wine at its best and closely followed by an amazing Ausone, they really do show their true Premier Grand Cru Classe A status. These are followed by a number of outstanding wines, Figeac, Canon, Angelus, Clos Fourtet, Beausejour Duffau Lagarosse, Pavie Macquin, Larcis Ducasse, Canon Lagaffeliere and many other of the affordable wines. Caution as there is a propensity for many of the middle to lower tier properties to over extract which gives you a rather unbalanced and tannic wine. Such a shame when this vintage has such purity of fruit, ripe tannins and great balance.

POMEROL

This commune has excelled again this year with so many amazing wines and I look forward to comparing these wines to the 2015 vintage in the years to come. Wine of the commune and candidate for wine of the vintage is Lafleur which received my highest score of any 2016 wine 97-99. Then come the amazing Vieux Château Certan, L'Evangile and best La Conseillante since the wonderful 1989, Clinet & Gazin.

SAUTERNES & BARSAC

Unfortunately these wines were not showing very well at all and we think this is an average quality for this region. It is rather unfortunate given the outstanding quality of the reds. Despite possibly incurring the wrath of the Sauternais we are unable to recommend any of the wines due to the enormous current stock of available outstanding Sauternes already bottled.



WHY SHOULD YOU BUY BORDEAUX FUTURES FROM GRAND VIN WINE MERCHANTS?

- **Perfect provenance direct from Bordeaux** to the USA via refrigerated containers to ensure you are the first owner of Original Wooden Cases!
- **Our supplier, Bordeaux Wine Locators, has been one of the top importers in the USA**, specializing in Bordeaux Futures for over 30 years, has some of the best relationships, and has never failed to deliver.
- **Your opportunity to choose the size you require** from 375ml, 750ml, 1.5L, 3.0L, 5.0L, 6.0L, 9.0L, 12.0L, 15.0L, 18.0L
- **5% discount for 1 full case (9L) in any format of any 1 wine.**
- **An opportunity to buy at the lowest release price** from the First Tranche offerings from the châteaux.
- **To secure that highly-allocated top property or the small property that sells out immediately.** We can provide all the top wines and are heavily-allocated in hard-to-find wines.
- **If buying futures for investment, we have a unique service to offer our customers: storage in our own temperature-controlled warehouse in Bordeaux** thus ensuring that if you decide to sell your wine it will have perfect provenance—having never left Bordeaux, which will increase the resale value. (\$15/case/year to store in Bordeaux. See your fine wine consultant for details.)
- **Take advantage of the strong dollar** which will ensure prices are lower than recent great vintages.

Please find below our tasting notes and scores on the top wines of the vintage. Additionally, please visit our 2016 Bordeaux EP landing page for our full list of 2016 Bordeaux updated daily as wines are released: <https://grandvinwinemERCHANTS.com/2016-bordeaux-futures/>

Thank you for your interest in 2016 Futures, and we look forward to supporting your pursuit of the world's finest wines with another outstanding vintage of Bordeaux!

Santé

The GVWM Team





Tasting Notes: The Best of 2016

St-Estèphe

Calon Segur (95-96) Ripe black currants, wet stone, chutney aromas give way to ripe red and black currants. Very precisely-balanced with finely-integrated tannins and a long, elegant finish. Tasted twice with consistent notes. 60% Cab Sauv / 20% Merlot / 18% Cab Franc / 2% Petit Verdot.

Le Marquis De Calon Segur (92-94) Wet gravel, blackberry and kirsch aromas, followed by silky, ripe cherries and big tannins. Medium + finish. Tasted twice with consistent notes. 56% Cab Sauv / 35% Merlot / 7% Cab Franc / 2% Petit Verdot.

Cos D'Estournel (94-96) Aromas of plum, sandalwood, and red currants, followed by a compact and ripe midpalate of black currants and kirsch. Fine, ripe tannins and persistent finish. 76% Cab Sauv / 23% Merlot / 1% Cab Franc.

Pagodes De Cos (91-93) Subtle wet gravel, raspberry and currants on the nose. Ripe, succulent cherries and fine tannins. 50% Cab Sauv / 46.5% Merlot / 3.5% Petit Verdot.

Cos Labory (91-93) Mineral nose with hints of roast cashew and berries. Supple black cherries with medium concentration and broad, ripe tannins. Moderately-long finish. 60% Cab Sauv / 35% Merlot / 5% Cab Franc

Haut Marbuzet (92-94+) Ripe red currants and hibiscus aromas followed by rich, ripe plum and cherries. Soft, ripe tannins and a moderately-long finish.

Montrose (96-98) Blueberry, ripe currants, gravel aromas give way to pure, succulent ripe berries. Ultra-refined balance with big ripe tannins. 68% Cab Sauv / 22% Merlot / 10% Cab Franc.

La Dame De Montrose (91-93) Red currants, smoke, chutney aromas with ripe red and black currants on the midpalate. Fine tannins and persistent finish. 52% Merlot / 35% Cab Sauv / 13% Cab Franc

Ormes De Pez (91-93) Hibiscus, chutney and wet stone aromas. Red and black currant fruits with fine tannins and a racy, mineral finish. 52% Merlot / 42% Cab Sauv / 5% Cab Franc / 1% Petit Verdot

Tronquoy Lalande (90-92) Ripe black currants, roast cashew aromas followed by richly-concentrated ripe black currants and fine, firm tannins. 58% Merlot / 34% Cab Sauv / 6% Petit Verdot / 2% Cab Franc



Medoc

Cantemerle (Haut Medoc) (91-93) Ripe black currants and boysenberry on the nose followed by rich, succulent currants and berries. Fine tannins and a moderately-long finish.

Potensac (Medoc) (90-92) Aromas of red and black currants, smoked game, with ripe cherries, balanced acidity, and fine tannins on the finish. 40% Cab Sauv / 40% Merlot / 15% Cab Franc / 15% Petit Verdot

Chasse Spleen (Moulis en Medoc) (91-93+) A very nice wine. Plenty of rich dark fruit with good acidity and some fine tannic structure. Should develop nicely.

Pauillac

Grand Puy Lacoste (94-96) Aromas of plum, black currants and wet stone, with ripe, silky red and black currants. Very focused, with fine tannins and a long, elegant finish.

Lacoste Borie (90-92) Blackberry bramble, wet stone aromas. Succulent black and red currants, plum, with fine tannins and moderate finish. 75% Cab Sauv / 20% Merlot / 5% Cab Franc.

Lafite Rothschild (96-98+) Brooding nose of plum chutney, wet gravel and black currants. Silky and supple ripe blackberry, currants with broad yet ripe and integrated tannins. A very long, and slow, crescendo-like finish. 92% Cab Sauv / 8% Merlot.

Carruades De Lafite Rothschild (93-95) Brooding aromas of wet gravel, black currants and sandalwood give way to a silky texture of supple black cherry and ripe tannins. Long finish. 44% Merlot / 49% Cab Sauv / 5% Cab Franc / 2% Petit Verdot.

Latour (97-99) Subtle nose of wet gravel and black cherries. Incredibly tight core of very refined and velvety black currants. Elegant on the midpalate with a long, long finish.

Les Forts De Latour (94-96) Red currants, blackberry aromas with silky and perfectly balanced fruit and weight on the midpalate. Beautiful elegance and long finish.



Pauillac

Lynch Bages (94-96) Subtle hibiscus, wet stone and bing cherry aromas, followed by dense and supple black currants. Silky, ripe tannins with a long finish. 75% Cab Sauv / 19% Merlot / 4% Cab Franc / 2% Petit Verdot.

Echo De Lynch Bages (91-93) Blackberry and hints of smoke aromas, followed by supple black and red currants, cherries. Ripe tannins, fresh acidity and a medium-plus finish. 73% Cab Sauv / 27% Merlot

Mouton Rothschild (96-98) Aromas of black currants, tar, chutney and plum skin give way to dense concentration of silky ripe black currants, plums, and black cherries. Ripe, yet firm tannins and the long finish goes on and on. A seriously ageworthy Mouton.

Le Petit Mouton (93-95) Black currants, plum and nutmeg aromas give way to velvety-ripe black cherries, very fine tannins and a succulent, long finish.

D'Armailhac (93-95) Chutney, black currants and blueberry nose. Focused, ripe blackberry and currants on the midpalate. Very refined, with integrated tannins and moderately-long finish.

Clerc Milon (91-93) Plum, wet stone aromas with ripe red cherry and fine ripe tannins. Moderately-long finish.

Duhart Milon Rothschild (94-96) Roast game, raspberry and hibiscus aromas give way to dense red and black currants and fine, firm tannins. Succulent, long finish. 67% Cab Sauv / 33% Merlot

Pichon Baron (95-97) Complex nose of hibiscus, raspberry, sandalwood and black currants. Very succulent and velvety ripe black currants, plums with fine, sweet tannins. Finishes long. 85% Cab Sauv / 15% Merlot

Pichon Lalande (94-96) Plum compote, wet gravel, and hibiscus aromas followed by silky, ripe black cherries and currants. Fine tannins and a long finish. 60% Cab Sauv / 30% Merlot / 5% Cab Franc / 5% Petit Verdot.

Reserve De La Comtesse (92-94) Complex nose of wet stone, ripe black cherry compote, and smoke. Ripe, silky blackberry kirsch with fine tannins and a moderately-long finish.

Pontet Canet (96-98) Black cherry, chutney, tar aromas. Rich, silky and pure blackberries, currants. Such concentration, power, and balance, with very long and robust finish.



St Julien

Beychevelle (93-95+) Pretty, sweet black currant, floral, airy and light on its feet. Nice warm length that carries for a while. Elegant.

Ducru Beaucaillou (94-97) Lavender, smooth, black cherry, big ripe tannins and a lot of grip, finishes with a nice length.

Gloria (91-93) Fresh blackberry, to blackberry compote, lavender, medium tannins with good acidity but short and slightly drying finish.

Graud Larose (93-96) Beautiful big round fruit, lavender, full ripe tannins, some exotic spice.

Leoville Barton (92-94+) Big black fruit, huge tannins but still silky mouthfeel, anise, long finish.

Leoville Las Cases (91-94) Big ripe chewy tannins, some anise, tart cherry. Very long.

Clos Du Marquis (90-93) Huge structure, lots of grip, spice, alcohol apparent. Red fruits.

Leoville Poyferre (93-95) Very smooth, elegant soft tannins, black currant long in the mouth, cocoa.

Saint Pierre (94-96) Cherry blueberry nose this wine has great elegance and charm with very ripe sweet fresh refined tannins, one of the best St Pierre's ever.





Margaux

Brane Cantenac (94-96) Following on from the superb 2015 The color is black and nose of caramel and eucalyptus. It has a rich vibrant taste which has super refined fruit and supple tannins with a long finish.

Cantenac Brown (90-92) Aromas of blue and black fruit. Lots of acidity, which is nice, but perhaps a bit too much. Full finish.

D'Issan (93-95) Nice dark fruit with a slightly spicy character. A big wine with lots of everything. Seemed just slightly short on the finish for me. Still a good effort.

Du Tertre (94-95) Love this palate, river rock and blackberries. Tannins there and welcoming and well integrated with fruit for a very long finish.

Durfort Vivens (92-94) Bountiful blue fruit, but gentle on the palate. Lovely full body.

Giscours (94-96) Blackberries, delicate and refined. Gentle tannins that are well-integrated.

Lascombes (92-94) Blackberry abounds, nice mouthfeel, long finish, this one woke me up. Tannins very well integrated and smooth.

Malescot St Exupery (95-96) Plenty of bountiful fruit, well balanced with fantastic acidity. A joyful mouthful.

Margaux (96-97) Bright - blackberry, strawberry and currants. Tannins balanced, smooth. So fresh, filled with violets, length and structure.

Pavillon Rouge du Chateau Margaux (94-95) Pretty nose. 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, the highest amount ever. Powerful. Very long finish, well balanced. Tannins refined.

Pavillon Blanc Du Chateaux Margaux (95-97) This was definitely the white of the vintage. An exceptional Pavillon Blanc. Beautiful fruit and acidity, this was so far above anything else tasted in whites it was difficult to believe they came from the same vintage.

Marojallia (94-95) Very good wine with a slightly exotic character. Seems to have another dimension to it that could make it very interesting once it has developed in barrel a little more. Very rich and layered fruit.



Margaux

Palmer (99-100) This nose jumps out at me, lovely, everything you could want. Silky and smooth. Elegant with power. Serious, long finish. Refined. Biodynamic grapes are paying off, despite lower yields.

Alter Ego De Palmer (94-96) Beautiful full nose, lovely on the palate, smooth blackberry. Rich. Long earthy finish. Powerful. Fresh. Luscious.

Prieure Lichine (90-92) Plenty of fruit, tannins move in conjunction with fruit, but would like more finish.

Rauzan Segla (95-96) Dark cherry and blackberry nose. Wow. Intense and concentrated. This will be around for a long time. Chewy, long finish.

Pessac-Léognan

Carmes Haut Brion (96-97+) This is probably the finest Carmes I've tasted. It is top-shelf Pessac, with beautiful concentration, and ultra-fine tannins. As with many of the 2015 versus 2016 vintage wines, there's a real airy quality to it, and attention to terroir. Very fine effort.

De Fieuzal Rouge (92-94) A bigger and more rustic feel than some of the Pessac wines. Good dark fruit with nice acidity and structure.

Domaine De Chevalier Rouge (93-95+) There's a nice lightness and freshness to this wine. Very well balanced with good acidity and a sense of terroir. Good integration of tannins.

Haut Bailly (94-96+) Very black fruit with a coolness. Good intensity and concentration. Excellent backbone. Structured, intense and will be a long term wine.

Haut Brion (96-98+) This is a large scaled Haut Brion with plenty of grip reminiscent of more classic Haut Brion style. Nice fine integrated tannins and it seems less fleshy and leaner than the La Mission. Nicely put together though and not yet revealing anywhere near the potential lurking inside.



Pessac-Léognan

La Mission Haut Brion (95-97) This is a very elegant and terroir driven la Mission. It is dominated by layered dark red fruit and lovely minerality. It seems to show a fleshier quality than the Haut Brion. Excellent structure and lightness on the palate.

Larrivet Haut Brion Rouge (93-94) Lovely wine. Charming fruit and firm but integrated tannins. No heaviness and good terroir. Nice effort.

Latour Martillac Rouge (91-93) Nice earthy nose. Some fairly big tannins but good fruit. The finish seemed a little short but this is still a good value.

Malartic Lagraviere Rouge (93-95) This has really really charming black mineral fruit. Excellent balance, and acidity - feels like a very complete wine. Very Pessac.

Pape Clement Rouge (94-96) A really juicy Pape Clement, but still reflects the terroir without being overly fruity. Nicely integrated tannins and fine structure. Good balance without feeling overly dense and tannic.

Smith Haut Lafitte Rouge (93-95+) This is a very good example of Smith Haut Lafite. It has nice richness and good dark fruit. It has lots of crème de cassis. Well integrated tannins in this fairly big-bodied effort.

Pomerol

Clinet (94-96+) Nicely structured with excellent dark mineral fruit. A more elegant style of Clinet than the 2015. And with finer tannins, but with plenty of dimension and character. Definitely has the house style that one would expect from top vintage Clinet.

Clos Rene (91-93) There was a good richness and density to the wine, but it seemed a bit rough on the finish. Needs to integrate. Didn't show the charm of the finer Pomerols.

Croix St Georges (92-93+) The wine seemed a bit tough, and the nose was a little muted, but some nice fruit and acidity. Seemed a little unevolved.



Pomerol

Feytit Clinet (94-96) Good, rich, and not over the top. Tannins are fine and integrated. Good structure, with acids that are well-balanced and nice dark mineral fruit. Very good example of Pomerol.

Gazin (93-95) Good medium-bodied wine with dark mineral fruit, and very 'Pomerol' aromas. This wine has a slightly more rustic quality than some of the top Pomerol wines but still very good representation for the vintage.

L'Evangile (96-98+) There's a real quality of fruit here that for me is reminiscent of the '09, but with less alcohol. The fruit is charming, and very pure. Excellent balance and structure here even though there is plenty of plump fruit. Difficult not to drink right off the bat.

La Conseillante (97-98+) Very sweet and fleshy fruit, much in line with the 2015 profile for this wine but with less alcohol. There is a very charming black and mineral quality to the wine. Very alluring la Conseillante. Definitely in the top Pomerols for the vintage.

La Croix De Gay (92-93) Big fruit but it seems a little disjointed. Not the pretty Pomerol type but more rustic and primary in nature. Might come together once it spends some time in barrel.

Lafleur (97-100) A very powerful Lafleur. Very concentrated for Lafleur, but it still has Burgundian overtones, in that there is a lightness and airiness. The tannins are extremely fine and integrated, and there is real sense of terroir unlike any other Pomerol.

Pensees De Lafleur (96-98) This is from a separate parcel from within the middle of LaFleur. This is a very multi-dimensional. The wine has a slightly bigger feel to it and great deal of texture, whereas the Lafleur is more elegant. There is a great sense of terroir here as well.

Le Gay (95-97) A very good example of Le Gay. Very much in line with the top vintages ('05, '09, '10) in terms of quality. The wine has excellent dark fruit character, and no sense of coarseness. Le Gay seems to have a lot of concentration and power with lots of aromatic you'd expect from excellent Pomerol.



Pomerol

Le Pin (97-100) Gorgeous sweet fruit that has wonderful concentration but has no heaviness whatsoever. Beautifully structured with ultra-fine and perfectly integrated tannins. Certainly has the x-factor in depth of flavor.

Le Bon Pasteur (94-95) Good, rich, but not over the top. Tannins are fine and integrated. Good structure, with acids that are well-balanced and nice dark mineral fruit. Very good example of Pomerol.

Vieux Chateau Certan (98-100) So beautiful. This really has the essence of Pomerol. The fruit has extraordinary depth and charm. Very similar to the 2015 in quality but slightly more elegant. It was almost impossible to spit out. Aromatics are off the chart.

Saint-Émilion

Angelus (96-97) This is a very fine Angelus, although not of the same quality of the 2015 which was off-the-charts good. The wine has excellent fruit, and lovely balance and structure. This still remains in the top vintages of Angelus.

Carillon d'Angelus (93-95) Made from specific plots within Angelus, there has been great strides in the production of Carillon which I feel is now in the realm of a lesser vintage of Angelus. This is the finest example I've tasted of this wine. It is fleshy, but still maintains an elegance and finesse. Dark, black fruit and mineral quality with well-integrated tannins.

Ausone (96-98) A lot going on here—a beautifully complex wine, and a very long finish. The fruit, color, acidity are all sopt on. This is a very fine Ausone up there with the top wines from this producer

Chapelle d'Ausone (92-94) This is a fairly big wine with very deep color and some structure. A plump and fleshy wine. I prefer a more elegant style.



Saint-Émilion

Beausejour Duffau Lagarosse (95-97) Lovely plums on the front nose, full of energy, nice and intensity on the palate.

Canon (96-99) Charming purple cherry color, intense barnyard, black berries and licorice in the front, refined palate, one of my favorites.

Canon Lagaffeliere (94-96) Aromas of wet stone, black currants, and hints of licorice. Very refined on the palate with fresh black cherries, ripe currants and fine, focused tannins on the long finish. 55% Merlot 35% Cab Franc 10% Cab Sauv.

Cheval Blanc (97-99) Fine bouquet of dark fruit, flowers, followed by intense fruit on the palate, structure and balance.

Clos Fourtet (93-95) Opulent, rich, intense, It goes a long way.

Faugeres (93-95) Good black fruit, chocolate, soft to medium tannins and long on the palate.

Figeac (96-98) A very fine example of Figeac. As with the 2015, this has incredible richness and depth. Beautiful black fruit and not the over-extraction that I see with many of St-Emilion wines. There is a lightness and transparency to the wine with a wonderful mouthfeel. Superb wine.

Grand Mayne (93-95) Depth, color and intense red berries on the nose, concentrated and soft tannins with licorice at the end.

La Confession (93-95) Super dark red fruit.

Laforge (90-93) Dark color, Blackberries and earthy, lots of tannins and intense.

Larcis Ducasse (90-93) Delicate fruit, plums and jammy on the nose, smooth tannins but lasting on the palate.

Le Dome (96-97+) A very dark ruby almost black color with blackberry and coffee aromas. This is a very elegant and well balanced wine exhibiting super fresh ripe fruit with a long finish.



Saint-Émilion

Les Asteries (93-95) Color black with black cherry nose, this is a well balanced wine with ripe fat chewy fruit exhibiting charcoal and cassis and a big mid palate bite that has great length

Pavie Macquin (90-93) Nice fruit, raspberries on the palate combining intensity and lasting tannins.

Quinault L'Enclos (90-92) Actually quite well-integrated with a nice fruit quality, and some ripe tannins. The property is owned and managed by the good folks at Cheval Blanc.

Teyssier Saint Emilion (90-93) Very smooth but hint of plums on the bouquet after swirl the wine, mature fruit, intensity on the palate.

Troplong Mondot (90-93) Quiet nose but delicate hints of black cherries and plums, big on the tannins and concentrated.

Vieux Chateau Mazerat (94-96) The tiny cuvee of Johnathan Maltus is a star of St Emilion brooding tannins that are well balanced, ripe fresh and display the hallmark of a great wine. Lovely finish.

Côtes de Bordeaux

Carignan (Cadillac Cotes De Bordeaux) (90-91) This is a really nice quality Cotes de Bordeaux that will be very affordable in a great vintage. Very balanced charming fruit.

Carignan Prima (Cadillac Cotes De Bordeaux) (92-94) This has excellent depth and quality of fruit. Was one of my favorite wines from the region. Pretty, dark fruit with a nice mineral quality. This is a no-brainer.

D'Aiguilhe (Castillon Cotes De Bordeaux) (90-92) Expressive aromas of cherry compote with ripe, supple blackberries and fine, focused acidity and tannins. Medium plus finish.

Marsau (Francs Cotes de Bordeaux) (91-93) We have been following Chateau Marsau since the Chadronnier's purchased the property and produced their first vintage in 1998. This is certainly the best vintage I have tasted. Cherry and blueberry nose with rich ripe balanced fruit that has great length. A great effort.