



**Bordeaux 2017**

*Subscription*

## Pauillac

### **CHATEAU BATAILLEY** – Pauillac

Basispreis 44,45 Euro (59,27 €/l)

- 95 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO: *"Dark purple red with violet hue and almost black core. Quite closed character, slowly opening up, displaying aroma reminiscent of dark berries, ripe tannins, elegant, velvety texture, fine acidity, excellent length."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This smoky wine is full of dark fruits and ripe tannins. It has spice and intense acidity as well as concentrated tannins. It will be a rich wine as it develops. Drink from 2023."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a classically structured young Pauillac with tannins that roll over the finish. Medium to full body and a bright aftertaste."*
- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon 17% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Batailley gives profound notes of crème de cassis, preserved plums and licorice over a core of espresso, tapenade and Marmite toast. Medium-bodied with a ripe, firm backbone of grainy tannins and plenty of freshness supporting the vivacious, sustained fruit, it finishes long with a red fruit lift."*
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is good, showing less dominant oak than in some recent years and with a good level of fruit and extraction. It's a good year for appellation typicity up in this part of the Medoc, and this displays firm Pauillac tannins, well held together, with savoury and juicy fruit. I get the impression that this will close down, because those tannins are pretty serious, and with good levels of freshness this will age very well. They are doing great work at this estate at the moment. 52hl/ha yield. 60% new oak. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 91-93 Punkte JEFF LEVE: *"Cigar box, tobacco, crème de cassis and forestry create the aromatic profile. On the palate, the wine offers soft, polished, dark red fruits, spice, blackberry and tobacco. Nearly forward in style, this is a charming Pauillac that will age for at least 2 decades with little effort. The wine was made from blending 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, reaching 13.6% alcohol."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Batailley was picked between 19 and 27 September at 52hl/ha. Like the deuxième vin, the nose demands coaxing from the glass, initially quite restrained with cedar and cigar box infused black fruit that finally begin to unfold after five minutes. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chewy tannin, fine depth and balance, well judged acidity and a precise, quintessential Pauillac finish. This feels long on the aftertaste – a fine follow-up to the 2015 and 2016 and it may well land at the top of my banded score. Tasted three times with consistent notes."*
- 90-92 CHRIS KISSACK
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

### **CHATEAU BELLEGRAVE** – Pauillac

Basispreis 21,60 Euro (28,80 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Bellegrave (Pauillac) explodes with flamboyant cassis and blueberry pie notes with touches of cedar chest, unsmoked cigars and charcuterie. Medium-bodied with a very firm frame of chewy tannins and lively acid, it has great length if it is a little grippy at the end."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A layered and flavorful red with currant and sweet-berry character. Medium to full body and silky tannins."*

### **CHATEAU CROIZET BAGES** – Pauillac

Basispreis 35,10 Euro (46,80 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Layers of black currant and plum fruits give this wine a bright character. It has some ripe tannins, although they do not intrude on the fine fruitiness. Its should age well over the medium term; drink from 2023."*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Shows good fruit and depth for the vintage with plenty of juicy tannins, fine acidity and a medium to long finish."*

### **CHATEAU FONABDET** – Pauillac

Basispreis 31,20 Euro (41,60 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A tight and juicy red with blackberry and black-cherry character. Medium-bodied, tannic and focused."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Dense with layers of black currant, this is a fine wine that is full of opulent tannins and rich fruit. Ample acidity cuts through the richness expressing the freshness of the vintage. Drink from 2023."*
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Fonbadet is positively stellar. Plump, juicy and impeccably refined, the 2017 has so much to recommend it. Silky tannins wrap around a plush core of bright, red-toned fruit in this super-expressive inviting Pauillac. Fonbadet is not the most complex Pauillac readers will come across, but its balance and sense of harmony are simply impeccable. Tasted three times."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"A 70/30 split of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot from the Peyronie family, the 2017 Château Fonbadet is a serious effort revealing a deep purple color as well as abundant aromas and flavors of blueberries, cassis, graphite and spring flowers. It has the classic cool minerality of the vintage, medium to full-bodied richness, and ripe tannin. Give it a few years and it should keep for two decades."*

### **CHATEAU GRAND PUY DUCASSE** – Pauillac

Basispreis 34,90 Euro (46,53 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Grand Puy Ducasse, which was picked 13 September to 3 October, has a light violet-scented bouquet that you might mistake for a Margaux. There is moderate intensity here, though it does not manifest the complexity of the top tier Pauillac. The palate is medium-bodied with light tannin, although it feels a little*

*hard towards the finish where I would like more fruit to develop and fill in the gaps. Tasted three times with consistent notes."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This young red shows a serious concentration of fruit for the vintage with firm and silky tannins and a fresh finish."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU GRAND PUY LACOSTE – Pauillac**

Basispreis 73,30 Euro (97,73 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This is crunchy and lively, offering a bright herbaceous note mixed in with red and black currant fruit. There's good iron-driven cut on the finish. A bit backward, but the pieces are there for a textbook, mineral-driven Pauillac."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very pretty and focused with a tight and refined palate of juicy tannins and a savory finish. Elegant."*
- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"These guys often over-deliver in challenging years, and have done so yet again. As you would expect in a vintage that has produced such an excellent Lacoste Borie, this GPL is exceptional, a real success that's juicy and carefully extracted. It has weight and impact, with a Pauillac tannic hold and presence. It's one of my wines of the vintage, and a must buy. The balanced, sculpted, juicy black fruits fully deliver personality and signature style. Harvested 15-29 September, yielding 45hl/ha. 80% new oak. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin)
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU HAUT BATAILLEY – Pauillac**

Basispreis 57,70 Euro (76,93 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has good currant and damson fruit lined with tobacco and iron notes. Offers slightly dusty tannins but remains fresh and focused overall."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"The first year under the Cazes family, and we can expect big changes over the next few years with an extensive replanting programme planned. But for now, let's look at 2017, where production has been split 33% second wine and 66% grand vin, with no frost to hamper them. It's rich and deep, with a sense of forward motion and flexible tannins pushing the cassis fruit from start to finish, joined by focussed and lively brambled fruits and gentle cedar smoking. The austerity is clear, and it's a little lighter-framed than the Lynch Bages, and very different in personality, but it has real promise and I like it enormously. Expect a new label with the Tour d'Aspic tower and the JM Cazes family name. 60% new oak. Drinking Window 2025 – 2036"*
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very structured and serious. Full-bodied, tannic and powerful. Boom. This is one of the best Haut-Batailleys in years. From the new owners, who also own Lynch-Bages."*
- 90 Punkte JEAN MARC QUARIN

**CHATEAU HAUT BAGES LIBERAL – Pauillac**

Basispreis 38,30 Euro (51,07 €/l)

- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tannic and linear with blackberry and currant character. Full body, tight and chewy with a polished texture and excellent length. Shows toned muscles for the vintage. Demeter certified biodynamic."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Solid, with dark plum and currant fruit forming the core, while tobacco and iron accents add bass and cut through the finish. Has the fresh cut of the vintage."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a solid, foursquare style of wine with some firm tannins that should soften as the fruit develops. There is brightness and plenty of fruit at the core, waiting its turn. Drink from 2024."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU HAUT BAGES MONPELOU – Pauillac**

Basispreis 23,10 Euro (30,80 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Haut-Bages Monpélou (a blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc) opens with pronounced cassis, black plum and blueberry notes with hints of anise, yeast extract and tar. The palate is medium-bodied with a solid frame of chewy tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing on an earthy note."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Haut-Bages Monpélou, which is vinified at Château Batailley, has a clean and fresh, mint-tinged bouquet that opens nicely in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, plenty of tightly wound black fruit laced with tobacco towards the saline finish. Enjoy this well made, lesser known Pauillac over the next four or five years. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"The Casteja family owns this 15ha estate on the gravelly plateau of Batailley, between châteaux Grand Puy Lacoste and Batailley. The vines were part of Duhart Milon until the 1860s, so was in fact classified in 1855 before being sold off separately and losing its classified status. The wine is vinified at Batailley. It takes its time to open, but has a lovely richness once it does, showing subtle but rich black fruit flavours with soft tobacco notes. It has strict tannins and is full of Pauillac character, a little more austere than Lynch Moussas but clearly one that is going to settle into itself. It's an excellent wine that's worth knowing about. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very Pauillac with graphite, blackcurrant and mint character. Medium bodied, tight and focused. Shows energy and precision."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU LACOSTE BORIE – Pauillac**

Basispreis 24,90 Euro (33,20 €/l)

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is bright, with extremely well-placed, juicy blue fruits with coffee touches, and a gorgeous sense of energy. It's a definite buy in this vintage, and should be great value. Technical director Christel Spinner has done a great job of delivering a focussed, finessed wine. I wouldn't wait too long to enjoy this, as it already has lots to enjoy. Harvested 15-29 September, yielding a fairly normal 49hl/ha, so we can safely say no frost here. Drinking Window 2022 – 2036"*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lacoste-Borie, the second wine of Grand-Puy-Lacoste, is plump, juicy and inviting. In other words, everything a second wine should be. The dark red and blue plum fruit is nicely pushed forward in this very pretty, supple Pauillac. Tasted two times."*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lacoste Borie was picked from 15 to 29 September, cropped at 49hl/ha. It has a clean, fresh and slightly earthy bouquet, what you might call "classic" in style, perhaps not quite as precise as the 2016 but then again, few 2017s are. The palate is medium-bodied with firm and strict tannin, a little raw at the moment with a small attenuation on the slightly rough-hewn finish. Not bad although I would like to see more finesse by the time of bottling. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*

**CHATEAU LYNCH BAGES – Pauillac**

Basispreis 99,00 Euro (132,00 €/l)

- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"There's really good flesh here for the vintage, with cassis, plum and blackberry compote flavors that are a step ahead of the pack in concentration. Light charcoal and iron notes score the finish, which is racy and fresh. Textbook Pauillac."*
- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is an excellent Lynch that starts off slowly and then drives at the end with dark fruit and hints of hazelnuts. Strong and focused tannins. A beautiful young wine."*
- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This dense wine is setting out to be fine and rich. It has power and density along with ripe blackberry flavors. Its concentration and dark tannins suggest a long life ahead. Drink from 2024."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"They've had their foot on the extraction pedal here, but the extremely dark fruit has great finesse. It is broad-shouldered and savoury-edged, and each time I tasted this wine it seemed a little richer and more complete, over-delivering for the year. This is going to age extremely well. 2% Petit Verdot makes up the blend. 75% new oak. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Deepest crimson. Lovely classic aroma of cassis and graphite with an attractive dusty/mineral overlay. Deep and still elegant, with refined dark fruit, super-fine tannins and a long harmonious finish. Shapely and elegant."*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lynch Bages was picked from 18 September with the young Merlot vines and finishing on 30 September. It was cropped at around 50hl/ha. It is aged in 75% new oak for 18 months. It offers good intensity on the nose, not as precise or as mineral-driven as the 2016 last year, with cedar and pencil shaving infusing the black fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, very refined, a touch of white pepper and cedar with impressive depth on the finish. This will be an approachable Lynch Bages, probably pre-destined to be overshadowed by the magnificent (if nascent) 2016 but it will certainly give 20 to 25 years of drinking pleasure. Tasted four times with consistent notes."*
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lynch-Bages is a wine of impeccable balance and class. Deep, fleshy and inviting, the 2017 should be ready to deliver pleasure with minimal cellaring. All of the Lynch-Bages signatures come through in a very pretty, deceptively medium-bodied wine loaded with personality. Lynch-Bages is never a huge wine, but like most of his colleagues, proprietor Jean-Michel Cazes opted for especially delicate extractions."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LYNCH BAGES – ECHO DE LYNCH BAGES – Pauillac**

Basispreis 33,90 Euro (45,20 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A layered and juicy red with blackberry and wet-earth character. Full-bodied, rich and juicy. Well done for second wine of Lynch."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Echo de Lynch Bages is absolutely delicious. Pliant and open-knit, the 2017 offers up a compelling mélange of red berry fruit mixed with floral and spice notes. In 2017, Echo has a bit more Cabernet Sauvignon than is typical. I very much admire the wine's creamy, inviting personality. In other words, Echo is exactly what a second wine should be."*
- 89-91 Punkte JEFF LEVE
- 88-90 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The second wine is the 2017 Echo de Lynch Bages. It's a soft, forward, effort that has solid notes of cherry and currant fruits intermixed with plenty of leafy herbs and lavender. With supple, polished tannin, notable purity and plenty of length, it's a charmer that's going to drink nicely in its youth yet keep for a decade or more."*
- 17 Punkte WEINWISSER: *"Dichtes Granat mit violetter Rand. Intensives Bouquet mit Cassis und Wacholder, dahinter rote Johannisbeeren. Am Gaumen mit spröder Textur, leicht aufrauend. Maulbeeren und Graphit im elegantin Finale."*

**CHATEAU LYNCH MOUSSAS – Pauillac**

Basispreis 34,90 Euro (46,53 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Lynch Moussas, composed of 78% Cabernet Sauvignon and 22% Merlot, is medium to deep garnet-purple in color with a very pretty nose of red roses and chocolate box over a core of crushed blackcurrants, blackberries and wild blueberries with touches of garrigue and wood smoke. The palate is medium-bodied with a firm, grainy backbone and oodles of freshness, finishing with great length and a mineral character coming through."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a bright, fruity wine, with attractive tannins and plenty of black currant and spice flavors. It shows great medium-term aging potential. Drink from 2022."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"Arnaud Durand, technical director since 2003, learnt under Denis Dubourdieu and they now work with Axel Marchal as consultant. This is really a success this year, not quite as concentrated as some but hugely enjoyable and drinkable. It has good Pauillac character and should be relatively good value. It's not the most broad-shouldered or intense, but charming and good quality. A well-handled, impactful and Pauillac signature with tarry, grilled notes that have suggestions of oak, but they have taken it down a peg from the last few years. There's a bit more clay in the soil here that gives a roundness in the mouth compared to Batailley. 60% new oak, A healthy 51hl/ha yield, harvested 19-16 September. A fairly high 30% press wine in the blend. Wait six to eight years before drinking. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(22% Merlot, 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 51 hl/ha) Samtenes, süßes, kräftiges Bouquet, Brombeeren, schwarze Kirschen, dunkles Caramel, Kaffeebohnen, Rauch. Samtener, fein opulenter Gaumen mit cremiger Frucht, viel feinem Tannin, kräftiger, süßerer Aromatik, dichter Struktur, langer, aromatischer Abgang mit süßen Rückaromen. Kann noch zulegen."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is precise and linear with a very pretty center palate of tannins and a bright finish. Fresh acidity. Some hazelnuts just at the end, but it's not from the wood. Elegant and refined."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU MOUTON ROTHSCHILD – Pauillac**

Basispreis 487,90 Euro (650,53 €/l)

- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"Vibrancy is one of the key themes of the year in the most successful properties, and this has bright, plump fruit and good depth of colour, even if it's less concentrated than the past few vintages. The Pauillac first growths have done a great job in 2017, and it's hard to question the depth of fruit and richness here - there's no doubting that this is a great Mouton. Cassis and blackberry notes are delivered with precision, but there is a clear restraint that is another signature of 2017, and perhaps doesn't reflect Mouton's personality as much as some of its neighbours. There's not the same weight of tannins as 2016 (around 70 IPT this year, still a high amount), but it's a beautiful, persistent, gorgeous wine that will age gracefully. 100% new oak. (Image is the 2015 bottle; the design for the 2017 label will be revealed later). Drinking Window 2027 – 2042"*
- 96 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN
- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a very shy and tight Mouton with blackberries, blackcurrants and hints of terracotta. Full body and very integrated tannins that are extremely polished and beautiful. Spicy and white-pepper finish. Sexy and exciting. So long and refined."*
- 96-98 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. The wine develops slowly on the palate, gradually revealing its powerful tannins and solid structure. It has the classic black currant fruitiness of Cabernet Sauvignon, to match the robust, lasting tannins. This impressive wine will develop slowly with great power."*
- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Mouton-Rothschild was picked from 7 to 29 September and matured in 100% new oak. This First Growth is driven by the Cabernet Sauvignon, as you would expect given the high percentage, expressive pencil lead and cedar that infuse the slightly introspective black fruit. Dare I say that it actually reminds me of Latour in style? The palate is medium-bodied, finely tuned and precise, a more masculine Mouton-Rothschild compared to the last three vintages, fresh with a sustained, lightly spiced finish that lingers in the mouth. That backbone is accentuated more during my second visit in mid-April. It is a cliché but this Mouton-Rothschild is unashamedly "classic" in style, perchance "le petit frère" of the 2010 Mouton-Rothschild that also contained a lot of Cabernet Sauvignon (though before you search the archives, yes, the 2011 and 2012 contained the same proportion!) Tasted twice with consistent notes."*
- 98-100 Punkte JEFF LEVE
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Mouton Rothschild is a powerful wine for the year, probably because of the high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend. Dense and closed in on itself, the 2017 is likely going to require quite a bit of time to soften. Raspberry jam, pomegranate and blood orange add lift and perfume with time in the glass. There is quite a bit of energy and brightness in the 2017, but not as much immediacy as is common for the vintage. That may ultimately turn out to be a positive for the wine's long term prospects. The blend is 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot. "After the frost, which did not really affect us, the major challenge in 2017 was heat stress," Mouton Technical Director Philippe Dhalluin told me. "We had no rain until the end of June. Then, in September, when we needed a bit of rain again, we got more than double what would have been optimal. The September rain affected the Merlot and Cabernet Franc, while the Cabernet Sauvignon was able to take advantage of the last 15 days of the growing season, which were much more favorable. In the cellar, we opted for longer macerations at lower temperatures, as we wanted to avoid extracting the type of hard tannins that mark other vintages with very dry summers, such as 2011."*
- 19 Punkte WEINWISSER

- 97-99 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Mouton Rothschild has one of the highest percentages of Cabernet Sauvignon ever at 90%, with 9% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot. Very deep purple-black in color, the nose is already singing of crushed black currants, warm blackberries and chocolate-covered cherries with hints of violets, star anise, cinnamon stick and cloves plus wafts of pencil lead and unsmoked cigars. Medium-bodied, wonderfully delicate yet intense in the mouth (gaining some richness in the mid-palate on my second taste two and a half weeks later), it has super fine-grained, smooth tannins and incredible freshness, finishing very long with tons of tightly wound layers. Wow. This vintage is going to be very long-lived in the cellar!"*

- 19 Punkte VINUM: *"Ein besonders liebenswürdiger Mouton von exquisite Raffinesse und großer Klasse, ungemein präzise gezeichnet, mit herrlich knackigen Tanninen, besonderer Spannung und großer Länge. Frisches Himbeerfinale."*

**CHATEAU PEDESCLAUX – Pauillac**

Basispreis 39,90 Euro (53,20 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is tannic for the year with blueberry, blackberry and salt character. Sea shells too. Full body, powerful finish. Pure blackcurrants at the finish. Some flowers too. Impressive. Driven, tight finish."*

- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Features a red currant and cherry core lined with chalky tannins. Shows floral lift and fresh acidity through the finish. Not big, but pure."*

- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This generous wine revels in its ripe Cabernet Sauvignon. It has firm tannins already fully integrated into the ripe blackberry fruit notes. Drink this fine wine from 2024."*

- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pédésclaux contains 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, 25% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, the first time that all four grapes are in the final blend. It was cropped at 47hl/ha and contains 13.25° alcohol. It has a very harmonious bouquet, quite mineral driven with pencil lead and crushed stone infusing the black fruit that is one of the most precise that I have encountered in recent years. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, quite precise and poised, the 50% new oak is nicely integrated with a finish that is fleet of foot. Very fine. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Pedesclaux is scented of crushed blueberries, warm black cherries and cigar box with touches of garrigue and cinnamon toast. Medium-bodied with firm, grainy tannins and just enough vibrant fruit, it has a nice long vivacious finish. The tentative blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot."*

**CHATEAU PIBRAN – Pauillac**

Basispreis 31,50 Euro (42,00 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A fresh red with lots of white pepper and salt. Blackcurrants and blueberries. Full-bodied, tight and focused. Ripe tannins. Nice sweetness at the end. Bright finish."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Solid, featuring plum cake and fig notes at the core, with a finish streaked with warm tobacco and charcoal notes. Relatively soft and plush in feel."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pibran is aged in 50% new oak for 18 months. It has a crisp, pure blackberry and graphite-scented bouquet that is very precise, one of the most detailed that I have come across with respect to this property. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp, chalky tannin. It is not a powerful or deep Pibran, but it is very tensile with an almost flinty finish. Given the reasonable price asked for this Pauillac, this could be one of the buys of 2017. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*

**CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE BARON – Pauillac**

Basispreis 133,20 Euro (177,60 €/l)

- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"A wonderfully rich and beautiful wine, intense and concentrated but with real generosity of spirit and huge persistency. It's in keeping with the more focussed and intensely intellectual style of wine that Pichon Baron has produced over the past few vintages, meaning that the austerity of the year really suits it. The 30hl/ha yield was not because of frost, but because of their low-yielding 60-year-old Cabernet vines. 80% new oak. 50% of production went into the grand vin. Harvested 18 September to 3 October, followed by an early and rapid fermentation and blending, meaning that wines were transferred into barrel by the end of November. A wine to age, and then some. Drinking Window 2026 – 2042"*

- 96-98 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very centered and focused on the mid-palate with beautiful currant, coffee and walnut character. Full-bodied and superfine. Strong tannins and a long and bright finish. Lots of blackcurrants and blackberries in the end."*

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"Pichon Baron is one of the sexiest Pauillacs I tasted in 2017. Silky, nuanced and finessed to the core, the 2017 hits all the right notes. In the glass, the 2017 possesses striking aromatic presence, vivid flavors, silky tannins and exceptional balance. In 2017, Pichon Baron is a wine of incomparable elegance and total finesse. I loved it."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pichon Baron was picked from 18 to 21 September for the Merlot and 27 September to 3 October for the Cabernet Sauvignon. It has a very sophisticated, pure and quite intense bouquet with black fruit, cedar and potent graphite aromas. This feels very focused and the 80% new oak is seamlessly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with a smooth entry, very sleek and silky with a gentle grip. There is a lovely sweetness here, perhaps less austere than I was anticipating with a very long, quite spicy finish. Tasted four times with consistent notes."*

- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The grand vin represents 50% of production this year. A blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot, the 2017 Pichon-Longueville Baron is deep garnet-purple in color and simply sings of vibrant blackcurrants, black cherries and rose hip notes with nuances of potpourri, incense, licorice and pencil shavings plus touches of cigar box and fertile loam. Medium-bodied, super intense and possessing stunning poise, it has very firm, fine-grained tannins and a beautifully silken texture, with bags of freshness and a very long, perfumed finish."*
- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This is nice, with dark plum and blackberry compote flavors that have a fleshy edge, while light bay, tobacco and savory notes add range, combining with the vintage's fresh acidity and bright mineral edge."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE - Pauillac** Basispreis 126,10 Euro (168,13 €/l)

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pichon-Lalande was picked from 7 September to 2 October and underwent a 23 day cuvaision period. It is intense on the nose, the new oak coming through a little strongly since the sample came from a new barrel, the final blend consisting of 60% new wood. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, the Cabernet Sauvignon driving this alone with layers of black fruit laced with cedar and graphite. It is a very "Pauillac" Pichon Lalande, less opulent and giving than recent vintages and more in the style of say, the 1996 or 2010. There is very good persistence on the saline finish but it is clearly a wine that is going to require more cellaring than its peers. Tasted four times in total, each time this gained more substance and density."*
- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"This barrel sample is 100% new oak, whereas the final blend will be only 60% new oak. A blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2017 Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is very deep garnet-purple in color with an incredibly fragrant nose of roses, lavender and baking spices over a core of crushed blackcurrants, wild blueberries and fresh plums plus touches of iron ore and underbrush. Medium-bodied and elegant with firm, grainy tannins, it's quite taut and muscular, with lots of perfumed and mineral layers and a long finish with lingering cinnamon and anise notes."*
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"If you just taste the big name Pauillacs, you would be hard-pressed to understand that 2017 has been a challenging year. This is one of my wines of the vintage, no question. It's from 21ha, biodynamically farmed, with Vincent Masson as consultant. Just a few plots further away from the river were affected by frost. The slight austerity of 2017 is evident, with a savoury quality to the fruit, but this is exceptionally good, with plenty of stunning fruit and well defined tannins. The aromatics are very refined, and the intense cassis fruit doesn't sacrifice any intensity or power. It demonstrates the energy that Comtesse has displayed so consistently in recent vintages, with gorgeous finesse and structure to the tannins. The new cellar has raised the level of Cabernet from 65% to 70+%, with 12% press wine. This is going to age extremely well. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is gorgeous, but it is also going to need time to come together. The sensuality and allure typical of so many Pauillacs is not at all evident here. A rush of dark cherry, plum, smoke, charcoal and exotic spice make a strong opening statement in a powerful Pichon Comtesse that is not ready to show all of its cards. The 2017 was incredibly reticent in several tastings, which is probably a very good thing for its long-term potential. Today, though, the 2017 is dense, powerful and closed in on itself, without the layers that define the 2014, 2015 and 2016."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Certainly a fine wine, this has ripe tannins that are balanced by the fine, black fruits. With its smoky and black currant character, it has the structure for aging, as well as the attractive fruitiness of the vintage. Drink from 2024."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU PICHON LONGUEVILLE COMTESSE DE LALANDE - RESERVE DE LA COMTESSE - Pauillac**  
Basispreis 40,90 Euro (57,20 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A beautiful second wine with blackberry and blackcurrant character and hints of green tea. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a fresh finish."*
- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a wonderful second wine, and a real success in a vintage where second wines are often punching below their weight. It's rich, plump, floral-edged and above all extremely drinkable. It has a juicy frame and it delivers. A 2% pinch of Petit Verdot adds spice (and is added only after the press wine, the absolute final step to add depth, if needed). They used no secondary fruit at all. This should be good to go in five to six years. Tasted several times. Drinking Window 2022 – 2034"*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Reserve de la Comtesse, which is matured in 30% new oak and 70% one-year old, has a really quite beautiful bouquet with perfumed blackberry, blueberry and subtle vanilla scents. The palate is medium-bodied with just a little sinew on the entry. There is certainly good weight and backbone here, quite saline compared to its peers with a slightly chalky finish with a touch of charcoal. Very fine. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*

**CHATEAU PONTET CANET – Pauillac** Basispreis 114,20 Euro (152,27 €/l)

- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is incredibly transparent and refined with blackcurrant, blueberry and mineral character. Full-bodied, layered and ethereal. Tannins have a crushed-stone character. Long and persistent."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Firm structure supports the luscious fruit flavors—this is a richly generous wine. Finely integrated tannins are layered with ripe black currant notes. As often with this biodynamic estate, the purity of the fruit is outstanding and concentrated. It will age well over many years, but is enjoyable young."*

- 96+ Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a very charming Pauillac with texture, rippling energy and undoubted finesse. It's deceptive, because the dark, luscious blackberry, bilberry, and damson notes are fairly fresh, with a luscious lipsmacking quality, but the tannins build over the palate. It almost tastes like a St-Julien rather than a Pauillac as they're so fine and elegant, but the Pauillac character becomes more apparent by the close of play - there's no hiding those swirling cassis, smoke and menthol notes. This has a really gorgeous tension and freshness without sacrificing concentration. They used brand-new concrete vats this year, designed by technical director Jean-Michel Comme's, for one-third of the crop. The concrete was made from sands and gravels extracted from the exact spot that the building containing them now stands, utilising geothermal heating and cooling, with as few metallic parts as possible and insulated with hemp. The wine will be aged in 50% new oak, 35% concrete vats and 15% in one-year-old barrels. They have made nearly no second wine again. Just 1% frost loss in 2017. The Merlot was harvested from 18 September, block by block over 10 days, then deleafed. The Cabernets were picked from 28 September through until 4 October. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*

- 17+ Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"No frost here. Protected by the estuary. 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot. Fermented in 40-hl oval concrete tanks, which they now think are better (because fewer angles) than their earlier and bigger tronconic ones. Gentle pidgeage by hand just to keep the cap wet. No electricity and no electromagnetism in the fermentation cellar. Pumps run on compressed air and the compressor is in another room. 12-volt LED lights are fed by shielded cables. They avoid wifi, too. Geothermic source for heating and cooling.*

*Sweet and spicy on the nose and sweet and quite thick on the palate. Rounded and soft but not a huge amount of fruit flavour. Very nice spice, giving a slightly exotic character. Firm, compact, fresh. Spice is the thing here and a very natural chewy texture. With air more fragrant, a floral fragrance. Chewy, 'spicy' texture, well-balanced fruit and deeply textured. Distinctive."*

- 96-98 Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Pontet-Canet opens with vibrant wild blueberries, black raspberries and crushed plums with notions of cinnamon stick, violets, unsmoked cigars and pencil lead plus wafts of roses, lavender and tilled black soil. Medium-bodied with very fine, incredibly plush tannins, it is deliciously savory in the mouth, with wonderful freshness and spectacular energy delivering many layers, resulting in a very long, mineral-laced finish."*

- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Pontet Canet has a very ripe and pure, slightly high-toned bouquet with touches of iodine inflecting the black cherry and cassis fruit. There is a subtle floral aspect to this Pontet-Canet, more iris than violet. With aeration there are hints of graphite and crushed stone, some of its initial opulence ebbing away. The palate is medium-bodied with fine balance on the entry, slightly chalky tannin, a fine sense of energy and poise. On the two readings of this wine, this was perhaps the most difference. The mid-April tasting had a very similar nose however, the palate demonstrated far more backbone, linearity and mineralité, not to mention a sapidity that was not present in the showing at the end of March. Ah yes, that's the Pontet I love. I expect this to land at the upper end of my banded score once in bottle. Tasted twice at the property."*

- 20 Punkte VINUM: *"Auffallend aromatische Komplexität, mit schwer zu beschreibenden Noten von Teekräutern, Blumen, Beeren und einer mineralischen Komponente; beginnt klar und direkt, entwickelt Dichte, vor allem aber besondere Frische und Seidigkeit; auch dieser burgundischste aller bisher verkosteten Pontet Canet entzieht sich einmal mehr jeder objektiven Notierung, weil er subjektiv Emotionen vermittelt wie sonst kaum ein Wein"*

## Saint Julien

### CHATEAU BEYCHEVELLE – Saint Julien

Basispreis 73,30 Euro (97,73 €/l)

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Beychevelle is absolutely gorgeous. Creamy and beautifully layered on the palate, Beychevelle exudes exotic richness in its ripe red/purplish berry fruit. Even though the 2017 is rather flamboyant in style, it retains quite a bit of brightness to play off its more extroverted leanings. Beychevelle was impressive on the several times I tasted it."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a fine expression of St-Julien, with extremely pretty aromatics and brambly, juicy black fruits that remain soft and persistent through the palate, with the tiniest hint of acidity tightening the tannins. It's not as expressive as in 2016, but that was exceptional, though this is certainly a wine to recommend in 2017. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very fine tannins already with a solid core of blackberry and blueberry character. Hints of flowers. Full-bodied, well-integrated and tight, not to mention fresh and long."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Beychevelle was cropped at 54hl/ha between 18 September and 3 October, matured in around 60% new oak with 13.4° alcohol. It has a very ripe blueberry, almost iodine-scented bouquet that is much more extroverted than its peers (like the 2016 last year.) The palate is medium-bodied with sweet black cherry and boysenberry fruit, and plenty of crushed violet. The palate is ripe and succulent; a sweet core of blue and black fruit here although perhaps its neighbor across the road, Branaire Ducru, displays a little more terroir at this early stage. Maybe that is because of the saignée? I would just like to see a little more restraint come through in bottle while I noticed greater precision developing during the 30 minutes the sample spent in my glass."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Beychevelle opens with gregarious cassis and blackberry pie notes with touches of baking spices and underbrush plus a waft of lavender. Medium-bodied with a great core of ripe black fruits, it has a firm frame of ripe, grainy tannins and balancing freshness, finishing long. The final blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 4 Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc."*

Josef Schreiblehner Gewerbestraße Lindach B1 84489 Burghausen Tel: +49 172 8525272 josef@schreiblehner.com  
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- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has a soft core of pure plum and cherry preserve flavors. Light cedar, vanilla and tobacco notes fill in on the finish. Very rounded, displaying a jammy feel rather than the vintage's overt freshness. A bit of an anomaly."*

**CHATEAU BRANAIRE DUCRU** – Saint Julien

Basispreis 46,60 Euro (62,13 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Crisp fruit and intense acidity are the hallmarks of this bright wine. Its tannins are a backdrop to the nervy fruit character and vein of minerality and refreshing acidity. Drink from 2023."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"The plum and cherry paste flavors show good energy, with floral lift and sleek graphite accents adding to the sense of range and definition. Well done."*
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Branaire-Ducru offers lovely depth and density. The characteristic dark red/purplish fruit character of Branaire comes through beautifully. As always, Branaire is a wine of polish and finesse. Stylistically, the 2017 comes across as a smaller scaled and more accessible version of the 2015. If that sounds appealing, well, it is. The 2017 is really quite lovely. Tasted three times."*
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"Würziges, leicht mineralisches, herbes Bouquet, Zwetschgenghaut, Himbeeren, Schiefer. Leichter, frischer Gaumen mit zarter Frucht, feinem Tannin, süssem Aromatik, langer, feiner, duftiger Abgang."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The deep purple-colored 2017 Château Branaire-Ducru offers a fresh, focused, classic style in 2017. Beautiful spring flowers, black and blue fruits, and a kiss of minerality all emerge from this medium-bodied effort that has nicely integrated acidity, a balanced, clean texture, and plenty of mid-palate depth. My money is on this ending up being an outstanding wine."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very tight and focused with a precise depth of blackberry and blueberry fruit. Full body, melted tannins and a fresh and vivid finish. Shows a compacted style."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU CLOS DU MARQUIS** – Saint Julien

Basispreis 48,30 Euro (64,40 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Clos du Marquis is fresh, lifted and wonderfully energetic, and yet also has quite a bit of textural depth. The flavors really sizzle in this highly expressive Saint-Julien from Hubert Delon. There is a sense of energy and tension to the 2017 that is impossible to miss. Much of that is attributable to the Cabernet Sauvignon that is the core of the wine this year. Floral notes reappear on the finish, adding lift to the creamy, layered finish. I can't wait to taste it from bottle."*
- 93-94 Punkte BURTSCHY
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This takes its time, has a fairly hefty structure and unfurls at its own pace. The last day of harvest was 4 October, but the overall growth cycle was early so they were able to wait for full ripeness, and even though the fruit flavours are savoury, they are intense. It certainly has some bounce and energy, and the balance is there too. An enjoyable wine that should be ready to drink within four to six years, but the low pH and good freshness suggest it should also age well. 55% new oak barrels. 80% of production, with the rest going into the second wine. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*
- 91-94 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Made from 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, and a splash of Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Clos du Marquis is another beauty from the team at Leoville Las Cases. Offering a deep, concentrated, yet rounded style, as well as terrific ripe fruits, forest floor, and tobacco aromatics, it has a great mid-palate and building tannin, all while staying in the more forward, charming style of the vintage. Give it a few years and enjoy over the following two decades."*
- 93 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN
- 89-91 Punkte JEFF LEVE
- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Firm and silky wine with very pretty dark-berry and cherry character with currant undertones. Pure quality of fruit is serious. Very salty on the finish. Bright acidity, too."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Medium to deep garnet-purple colored and composed of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Clos du Marquis gives up gorgeous notions of crushed plums, blackberries and cassis with hints of chocolate box, pencil lead, menthol and lavender. The palate is medium-bodied, very finely crafted and refreshing with firm yet fine-grained tannins, great intensity and a long, mineral-laced finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine has a fine structure, firm with a dry core of tannins and a juicy black currant character. The Cabernet Sauvignon from this single parcel of vines is rich, yet pleasantly fresh. It will mature quickly and then age well."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Blueberry, blackberry and plum fruit is lined with graphite, anise and sweet tobacco notes. There's juicy energy and a nice bramble hint at the very end. Has purity and typicity. Well done."*

**CHATEAU CLOS DU MARQUIS – LA PETITE MARQUISE** – Margaux

Basispreis 24,90 Euro (33,20 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"The second wine of Clos du Marquis is nicely structured with firm and silky tannins, a medium body and a fresh finish."*

**CHATEAU DUCRU BEUCAILLOU – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 383,00 Euro (510,67 €/l)

- 95-97+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*There was no frost at Ducru-Beaucaillou in 2017 due to its proximity to the estuary. This barrel sample comes from the final blend, which was made in early 2018. Composed of 90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Merlot and sporting a deep garnet-purple color, the 2017 Ducru-Beaucaillou is intensely scented of blackcurrant cordial, blackberries and lavender with hints of crushed rocks, iron ore, rose hips and Provence herbs plus touches of wood smoke and sandalwood. Medium-bodied, very firm and grainy in the mouth, it possesses lovely freshness, lifting the intense flavors, finishing long and minerally. Sporting an incredible core of muscular mid-palate fruit, this wine should age incredibly.*"
- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Ducru Beaucaillou was picked from 18 to 23 September for the Merlot, and from 25 to 30 September for the Cabernets. It is matured in 100% new oak over 18 months. It offers copious black fruit, violets, bay leaf and Asian spice notes on the nose that gathers momentum in the glass after a deceptively understated opening. The palate is medium-bodied with quite firm tannin, the oak nicely integrated, not quite as harmonious as the 2016 but then again, few 2017s are. There is a rigid structure to this Ducru Beaucaillou underneath the carapace of ripe black fruit with touches of tobacco and spice lingering on the aftertaste. It is probably going to require more cellar age than many of its peers but it will be worth the wait.*"
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*The 2017 Ducru-Beaucaillou is distinctly sleek and polished, with a real air of sensuality. Finessed and racy to the core, the 2017 is all about elegance rather than the power that informed both the 2015 and 2016. Red-toned fruit, plush texture and silky tannins all contribute to the wine's restrained feel. A host of floral notes add brightness as the wine opens up in the glass. There is so much to like in the 2017. The blend is 90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Merlot.*"
- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*Holy.... This is so powerful and dense with amazing depth of fruit and beautifully ripe tannins. Full body, layers of fruit and tannins. It's has a long finish but then kicks off at the end. Remains classic in style.*"
- 94-96 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "*Unquestionably one of the successes in the vintage is the 2017 Château Ducru Beaucaillou, which reminds me of the 2014, with perhaps a touch more oomph. As always, it's a Cabernet Sauvignon-dominated blend (90/10 Cabernet and Merlot) brought up in new barrels. Its vibrant purple color is followed by a terrific bouquet of crème de cassis, blueberries, violets, and exotic flowers. It has medium to full-bodied richness, plenty of mid-palate, and fine tannin as well as a great finish. It's going to need 3-5 years of cellaring and keep for two decades. Count me in as a huge fan.*"
- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "*Barrel Sample. While this is a dense wine packed with tannins, they never threaten to overwhelm the fruit. The blackberry notes and swathes of ripe fruit give the wine its opulent, ripe and generous character. While the wine will certainly age, it is going to be drinkable relatively soon, certainly by 2024.*"
- 96 Punkte DECANTER: "*A little less intense and concentrated than the 2016, this focusses more on rich, smoky, finessed aromatics. The overall feel is gourmet and well textured, with some welcoming rich spice. A serious contender for the top St Julien in 2017, this has wonderfully fleshy blackberry fruits, a screech of graphite adding some mineral overtones, and a great dash of grilled oak. 7,500 cases of Ducru this year instead of 10,000 - they weren't affected by frost, but the Cabernets were just less generous this year, down to around 30hl/ha. This is accomplished winemaking, with great energy and poise. 100% new oak. 3.79pH. Drinking Window 2027 – 2040"*
- 98 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 19 Punkte WEINWISSER
- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "*This has a warm and inviting feel, with mocha, Christmas pudding and blackberry and plum compote aromas and flavors flowing through atop fleshy, velvety structure. There's a graphite edge along with some alluring spice accents, and this stays polished and lengthy in the end.*"
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU GLORIA – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 35,80 Euro (47,73 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte WINSPECTATOR: "*Plum, blackberry and black currant fruit has melded nicely with graphite and anise notes in this red, which shows good energy, with a mouthwatering tar note on the finish. Really solid.*"
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*A tight and focused red with currants, dark berries and hints of mushrooms. Medium body, firm and silky tannins and a juicy finish.*"
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: "*Tight but plentiful fruit extraction. The expression is a little less full than in 2016, but there is both finesse and grip to the fine, firmly held tannins as they travel through the palate, accompanying cassis, fern, rosemary, heather and cigar box notes. Enjoyable stuff. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*The 2017 Gloria is deep garnet-purple in color and scented of warm plums and blueberry pie with hints of potpourri, tilled soil and espresso. The palate is medium-bodied with just enough expressive fruit and a fine, approachable frame. The blend is currently 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 8% Petit Verdot.*"
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Gloria, tasted from a new barrel though the final blend will include 50% new oak and the remainder one-year old, has a straightforward but pure bouquet with blackberry, briary and cedar aromas accompanied by a distant whiff off the estuary. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe tannin, crisp acidity, a little "brittle" in the mouth, but quite precise towards the finish. It actually ends much better than it begins so I will expand my banded score to indicate potential upgrade in quality. Let's see.*"
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*The 2017 Gloria is superb. At once deep and fleshy, but also beautifully delineated, the 2017 is incredibly satisfying. Succulent red and blue fruit, cedar, tobacco, anise and leather are some of the many notes that develop in the glass in an explosive, potent Saint-Julien that delivers the goods, and then some. Best of all, Gloria remains one of the most compelling values in all of Bordeaux. Don't miss it. Tasted three times.*"

**CHATEAU GRUAUD LAROSE – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 69,40 Euro (92,53 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky young red with an attractive center palate of fruit and hints of cedar. Fresh, tight and compacted."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Well-built, with plum and blackberry fruit that is very fresh, thanks to bright acidity. Light floral, anise and graphite notes add range. A savory streak keeps the finish going."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a firm, well-placed cassis and redcurrant expression, ripe enough to highlight some of the best qualities of a classic St-Julien vintage, but not quite hitting its stride. Still, it has a lovely floral character and a fine tannic structure. An attractive, carefully expressed Gruaud Larose with lots to enjoy. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is firmly structured, dwelling on wood and extraction at this stage. There is enough weight to this concentrated wine that the fruit should develop, even if slowly. Drink from 2024."*
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Gruaud Larose is pliant, deep and quite expressive, while staying light on its feet. In 2017, Gruaud is a wine of precision and nuance rather than volume. There is lovely persistence and nuance in the glass. Even so, I can't help thinking there is quite a bit of unrealized potential here. All of the wine was fermented in oak vats, with slightly higher than normal temperatures for the Cabernets."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Gruaud Larose was picked from 15 to 20 September for the Merlot and from 21 to 3 October for the Cabernets, fermented in wood and cement tanks and aged in French oak, 80% new for 18 to 24 months. It comes in with 12.88° alcohol. Quite deep in colour, it has an introverted bouquet at first that demands a lot of coaxing from the glass. There are notes of black cherry, iodine and just a touch of pencil lead. The palate is medium-bodied with finely balanced. An unpretentious but pretty Gruaud Larose that is benefitted by what is clearly a prudent extraction. The oak is neatly integrated with a linear, almost pastille-like finish and quite a sustained aftertaste."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LAGRANGE – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 41,60 Euro (55,47 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Juicy and open-knit, with blueberry and black currant fruit energized by brambly structure and fresh acidity. A touch shy on density, but has purity and typicity."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A 2017 with serious depth of fruit and firm tannins. Solid center palate. Fresh and long finish. Should come out nicely."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has been a tough vintage for Lagrange, but they have worked well with it. It has carefully extracted cassis and blackberry fruit, and some lovely, elegant oak dusting. It doesn't have the depth of expression of the past few years, but is extremely accomplished and softly spoken. It will offer huge amounts of pleasure. Tasted several times. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Lagrange is 100% Merlot and opens with a seriously plummy nose with a compelling undercurrent of spice cake, potpourri and chocolate box plus a waft of sage. Medium-bodied, taut and muscular with a rugged frame of chewy tannins and lively acid, it finishes with an energizing herbal lift."*
- 89-92 VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lagrange is wonderfully pliant, with creamy tannins and more than enough juiciness to make it extremely appealing, even in the early going. Ripe dark cherry, chocolate, new leather, licorice, cedar and dried herbs run through this super-expressive, inviting Saint-Julien. Tasted two times."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LAGRANGE – LES FIEFS DE LAGRANGE – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 24,10 Euro (32,13 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A juicy and fruity red with dark-berry and chocolate character. Some lemon undertones. Medium body and a tannic finish."*
- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Les Fiefs de Lagrange is a very pretty, silky wine. Bright red-toned fruit and lifted floral notes give this attractive, mid-weight Saint-Julien its personality and overall feel. In 2017, the Fiefs is especially refined, not to mention absolutely delicious."*

**CHATEAU LALANDE BORIE – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 24,90 Euro (33,20 €/l)

- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Warm in feel, with plum and blackberry compote notes backed by charcoal and tobacco accents. Shows a lot of range, but also solid flesh and depth."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and tight center palate with dark berry, currant, and mint character. Full body, layered and flavorful. Shows a solid mid-palate."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Reduced quantities due to frost have added some concentration and certainly brought out fine, elegant tannins. The black fruit flavors are warm, rich and generous backed by a solid structure to balance the ripe fruit."*
- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Bruno Borie mentioned that there was a little frost on the western part of Saint-Julien here. A blend of 66% Merlot and 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, the medium garnet-purple colored 2017 Lalande-Borie has a beautiful nose of red roses, dusty soil and powdered cinnamon with a core of red currants, black cherries and kirsch plus a touch of warm plums. The palate is medium-bodied with a chewy frame and lively backbone supporting the muscular fruit, finishing savory and with great persistence. To be aged for 12 months in barrel, in one-third new oak."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lalande-Borie, which was created by Jean-Eugène Borie in 1970, is matured in 30% new oak for 12 months. It has a well-defined bouquet with slightly broody dark fruit that need some encouragement from the glass. Here there is a majority of red rather than black fruit, complemented by bay leaf and a touch of truffle. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, crisp acidity, very focused with tangible mineralité that surfaces on the final third of the wine. Good potential. I like the sapid nature of this wine and it should drink well over the next decade."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lalande-Borie is a powerful, dense wine endowed with serious depth. Sadly, frost wiped out half of the crop. As for the wine itself, it is quite huge. Big and rich in the glass, Lalande-Borie offers serious intensity as well as structure. Sweet tobacco, menthol, licorice, spice and dried herbs add layers of nuance to this decidedly potent edition of Lalande-Borie. Sadly, yields are down a punishing 40%."*

**CHATEAU LANGOA BARTON – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 44,00 Euro (58,67 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is ripe and generously structured. It is well balanced between powerful dark tannins and attractive fruitiness. The concentration and density promise to age well. Drink this fine wine from 2024."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A solid core of cassis and plum fruit fills out nicely here, with graphite and tobacco notes coursing underneath. Shows good cut and drive. Textbook St.-Julien."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Langoa Barton is absolutely gorgeous. A wine of unusual depth and richness for the year, Langoa Barton is creamy, pliant and incredibly inviting. Super-ripe red and blue fruits, new leather, and dried flowers fill out the wine's frame effortlessly. The blend is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot and 8% Cabernet Franc. In 2017, Langoa Barton is a lovely under the radar gem. Don't miss it. Tasted two times."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Langoa Barton was picked from 15 to 18 September with respect to the Merlot and from 22 to 29 September for the Cabernets, matured in 60% new oak. It has a ripe, brine-tinged bouquet, not complex compared to previous vintages, but pure and developing light smoke and truffle scents with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with quite sharp tannin to create a tensile Langoa-Barton, saline with moderate depth, just a touch of pencil lead that surfaces towards the finish. It is exactly what I expected, which is a good thing given the track record of this Saint-Julien."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"There is no doubt that this offers a good expression of the appellation in the medium to long term, but there's a slightly wider gap between Léoville and Langoa this year - the first time I've felt that in several years, and perhaps a reflection of the slightly cooler terroir here. It's impressively structured and well held together, with black fruits which aren't as concentrated as the estate has displayed in the previous two vintages, but it displays an innate St-Julien elegance. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Healthy cherry red. Inviting and elegant dark-fruit aroma with just a light char. Here, after several left-bank wines that lacked enough fruit depth in the middle, is one that has weight and depth on the mid palate that gives a rounded, fresh and complete wine. Succulent, juicy and well-structured for the longer term but still elegant."*
- 18 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 45 hl/ha) Samtenes, fruchtiges, frisches Bouquet, Brombeeren, schwarze Kirschen, Tabak, Zeder, Lakritze. Dichter, ausgewogener, fruchtiger Gaumen mit samtener Frucht, feinem Tannin, kräftiger Aromatik, langer, aromatischer Abgang mit süßen Rückaromen."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Langoa Barton showed beautifully both times I was able to taste it. Black cherries, plums, leafy herbs and spring flowers all emerge from this medium-bodied, ripe, lively Saint-Julien that shows the pretty, charming, elegant style of the vintage. As with all the wines from this vintage, it's not massive by any means, yet it is nicely concentrated and impeccably balanced. The blend is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc, with harvest stretching between the 15th and 18th of September for the Merlot and the 22nd to the 29th of September for the Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. It's still aging in 60% new oak."*
- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very solid and tannic with a beautiful core of blueberries, blackcurrants and other blue fruits. Crushed stones, to boot. Full body and a flavorful finish. Serious for the vintage."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LEOVILLE LAS CASES – Saint Julien**

Basispreis 199,90 Euro (266,53 €/l)

- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has the vintage's fresh acidity, which does a wonderful job of driving the core of blueberry, black currant and blackberry fruit along. Light anise and graphite accents lend typicity, with a sleek mineral edge on the finish. Rock solid."*
- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very muscular with formed and bright tannins that give the wine super drive and length. The tannins build on the finish with a lovely integration of black fruits. Serious for the vintage."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This normally serious, complex wine has a smile on its face in this vintage. Even at this young stage the black fruits shine. It is certainly concentrated and dense, but the intense fruitiness cuts the tannins. This very fine wine will certainly age, although it is likely to be accessible sooner than usual."*
- 18 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 97 Punkte DECANTER: *"One of the very few wines in this vintage that truly stains the glass with its wonderfully vibrant anthocyanins. This is an exceptional wine - Léoville just knows how to knock it out of the park again and again. An early vintage meant everything was blended and in barrels before Christmas, with 7.5% press wine, so this has had some time to settle down already. There's huge persistency through the palate, very similar to last year. It has presence and a grip that doesn't want to let go, and you don't want it to either. It continues to reveal itself over the course of the glass, showing slate, cassis, blackberry and charcoal. It's not as powerfully knitted as the 2016, but watch out for those tannins. I expect this will be a wine that, like the 1996 and 2016, will close down and evolve extremely slowly. Stunning aromatics. 90% new oak. 3.72pH. Drinking Window 2027 - 2042"*
- 18 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot. 90% new oak. pH 3.72, IPT 71. Very dark with black core. This invites you in but doesn't say much in terms of aroma. It is dark, intense and sober at heart but with flashes of colour to suggest a future revelation. Super-fine texture, so much finer than I remember earlier vintages, especially at this young age. Seems almost delicate already but has amazing and effortless concentration. Already elegant. And unexpectedly juicy on the finish. Very very long. Fruit purity persists to the end."*
- 96-98 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Léoville Las Cases, a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon with 11% Cabernet Franc and 10% Merlot from 50- to 90-year-old vines, is deep garnet-purple in color and simply sings of crushed blackcurrants, wild blueberries and plum preserves with notions of wood smoke, cigar boxes, crushed rocks and beef drippings. Medium-bodied with wonderful intensity and vivacity, it gives a firm, fine-grained frame and a densely packed mid-palate, finishing long and earthy. This should age incredibly!"*
- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Léoville Las-Cases was picked between 15 September and 4 October, cropped at 37hl/ha and as usual, comes from the oldest vines that average around 50-years old. This year there is 13.28° alcohol. It is matured in 90% new oak and contains 7.5% vin de presse. It has a very clean and precise bouquet with blackberry, just a touch of blueberry, violet and a hint of bay leaf. This gains intensity with aeration but it is not as detailed as last year's 2016. The palate is medium-bodied with more supple tannins than usual (that word is apt - there is nothing "soft" about this Saint-Julien). It has great depth with layers of black fruit laced with graphite and a pinch of white pepper, whilst it delivers fine salinity on the sappy finish. Excellent."*
- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Léoville Las Cases is remarkably elegant and polished for this typically brutish Saint-Julien. Persistence more than power is the key element that distinguishes the 2017 from most other vintages and most other Saint-Julien as well. The classic Las Cases flavor profile is very much in evidence, but in a wine that is silky, nuanced and exceptionally polished. In 2017, Las Cases is truly magical, and one of the most complete wines of the Left Bank. In a word: sublime. Don't miss it. Tasted two times."*
- 18,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU SAINT PIERRE** – Saint Julien

Basispreis 53,30 Euro (71,07 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Focused, showing red and black currant preserve flavors driving along, with a racy graphite streak. Fresh acidity keeps it all moving through the anise-tinged finish. Should be delightful when released."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is more layered and impressive than Gloria this year. Full and focused with structure and length."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"They have done a great job this year of not dipping far below the quality of the last few vintages. The only indications really are in the texture and the more savoury-edged register of the fruit. The tannins are a touch more pulled in on the finish, closing things off just slightly too early. Overall this is a clear success, with punch, personality, juice, fine tannic hold, and notes of bilberry fruits, charcoal and cedar smoke. Very good quality. Drinking Window 2026 - 2040"*
- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Saint-Pierre is a little reticent, giving glimpses at warm cassis, baked plums, tobacco and pencil shavings notes with a touch of forest floor. Medium-bodied with a muscular core of sustained black fruit, it has a grainy frame and plenty of freshness, finishing with impressive length. The blend is currently 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot and 7% Cabernet Franc."*
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"One of the real gems of the vintage, the 2017 Saint-Pierre is powerful, deep and quite concentrated. Despite its obvious richness, the 2017 has more than enough supporting structure to back it up. Gravel, smoke, tobacco, leather, licorice and spice lead into the potent finish in a muscular, tannic Saint-Julien built for the cellar. This is an outrageously beautiful wine. Tasted three times."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Saint-Pierre came from a sample taken from a new barrel although the final blend will include half that amount. It was cropped at 46hl/ha from 18 September until around 3 October in a second wave of picking. It has quite an introverted bouquet with broody dark berry fruit, tobacco and graphite, almost Pauillac-like in style. It probably just needs to evolve a little more cohesion. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy, slightly abrasive tannin but a fine line of acidity. There is firmness and density to this Saint-Pierre, weighty in the mouth but I find that it is missing some finesse towards the finish. Like the Gloria, it may well improve during its barrel maturation. A second sample encountered at the end of my tastings was even better and showed immense brightness and energy."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU TALBOT** – Saint Julien

Basispreis 51,60 Euro (68,80 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is solid and structured with blackberry and currant character. Full-bodied, muscular and dialed-in."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Solid, with currant and plum fruit at the core flanked by focused, chalky tannins. Savory and tobacco notes score the finish. A touch austere but shows impressive drive."*

Josef Schreiblehner Gewerbepark Lindach B1 84489 Burghausen Tel: +49 172 8525272 josef@schreiblehner.com  
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- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Talbot was picked from 18 to 4 October using manual and optical sorting, matured in 50% new oak. It has a relatively light but well-defined, floral bouquet, pressed flower filtering through that blackberry and boysenberry scents, a little clove and bay leaf lending complexity as it opens in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine but firm tannin that frame the slightly savory black fruit, just a little earthiness developing towards the finish. It is a classic Talbot really, exactly what you would expect for the vintage."*

**CHATEAU TALBOT CAILLOU BLANC – Bordeaux Blanc**

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,87 €/l)

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"A very good Caillou Blanc with wonderfully intense finessing on the aroma and on the attack. An intense sunflower yellow in colour, with some definite oak influencing on the palate. I'm surprised, in fact, by quite how rich this is - undoubtedly a successful, powerful, layered Sauvignon character, but with a silky texture through the palate and good juicy lift on the finish. Drinking Window 2018 – 2025"*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Caillou Blanc de Talbot has quite an earthy nose of wet pebbles and struck flint over a core of lemon juice and white grapefruit. The palate is medium-bodied with fantastic intensity and bags of minerals on the long refreshing finish."*

## Saint Estephe

**CHATEAU BEAU SITE – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 17,85 Euro (23,80 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WEINWISSENER: *"Der einladende Beau-Site wurde mit 40 hl/ha gearbeitet und besteht aus 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot und 2% Cabernet Franc. Sehr tief und fein, mit distinguerter Frucht, frisch, klar und kraftvoll. Jugendlich verschlossen mit sehr guten Anlagen und ausgezeichneter geradlinig animierender Struktur."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Pretty spice and dark berries with hazelnuts and walnuts. Medium to full body, tight and integrated tannins and flavorful finish. A beauty. Lovely center palate."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"On an outcrop just behind Calon-Ségur, this property is owned by the Castéja family, with slopes facing east towards the Garonne river. This is a little tight for the vintage, serious and not quite as juicy as some I have tasted. It's still extremely well-constructed, dripping with cassis notes and floral edging. It's aged in 50% new oak, but the light toast gives a smoked edge without overpowering it. This is usually excellent value, and there's no need to wait too long before drinking. Consultants are Axel Marchal and Valérie Lavigne. Drinking Window 2022 – 2034"*

- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Beau Site offers terrific density and breadth. Inky dark fruit, grilled herb and licorice flesh out in this resonant, pleasantly rustic Saint-Estèphe. 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot."*

**CHATEAU COS D'ESTOURNEL – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 149,90 Euro (199,87 €/l)

- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Love tasting this wine. You almost want to drink it for its harmony and balance. Full-bodied and so complete with cloves, spices, dark berries and hints of chocolate. Wonderful integration on the finish."*

- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This impressive wine is serious, dense and richly endowed with great swathes of black plum. An excellent wine from this estate, ripe black fruits, layers of acidity and dark tannins are perfectly poised. This is a wine for long-term aging."*

- 97 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is exceptional, if a touch below the intensity and harmony of 2016. I love the density that's displayed in this wine, showcasing luxurious, well-enrobed tannins. The complexity steals up on you little by little, the dark cassis and plum fruit character deepening through the palate with flashes of sage, charcoal, cigar box, graphite and taut tannins. The colour difference is marked between the grand vin and second wine, with the Cos extremely deep damson in colour following a one-month maceration at 30 degrees and clever use of the press. Harvested 12- 30 September. 40% of production went into the grand vin. 3.7pH. IPT68. 60% new oak. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*

- 97-100 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The final blend of the 2017 Cos d'Estournel is 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Very deep purple-black in color, it offers up intense scents of crushed blackcurrants, blackberries and black cherries with touches of incense, spice cake, star anise and plum preserves plus a perfumed hint of potpourri. The palate is medium-bodied with very firm yet wonderfully ripe, "sweet", fine-grained tannins at just 13% alcohol—something of a miracle in our modern times. The palate sports fantastic freshness and tons of energy emitted from the intensely perfumed black fruit layers, finishing on an epically long-lingering mineral note. Truly profound."*

- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Cos d'Estournel is matured in 60% new oak and comprises 13% alcohol, approximately the same as the 2016. It has a more expressive and welcoming bouquet than usual, maybe more indicative of how this wine will mature in bottle, less opaque than the 2016. A common theme throughout the range from Cos d'Estournel is a Pauillac-inspired backbone/tannic structure coupled with an attractive scent wafting over from the estuary...think mudflats, oyster shells and the tang of sea spray. It gains a little intensity with aeration but never fully lets go. The palate is very well balanced with filigree tannin, rendering this one of the most approachable barrel samples from the estate in recent years. The coolness of the latter part of the season defines this Saint-Estèphe more than the precocity of June: streamlined, cool and linear with a velvety finish that feels sleek, to the point of being understated, though that belies its length and focus. This is simply a very classy wine in the making and typical of the more recent sophisticated style pursued by the property in recent years."*

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Cos d'Estournel is a sleek, polished wine built on finesse more than power. Sweet, perfumed aromatics and silky tannins add to that impression. In 2017 the Grand Vin shows a distinctly red-fruit and floral character that matches its mid-weight personality nicely. The blend is 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. New oak is around 60%."*
- 18,5 Punkte VINUM: *"Ein Cos wie aus dem Bilderbuch, geschmeidig, aber auch mit Tiefe und von großer Länge, herrliches Beerenfinale: Präzision im Dienst der Sinnlichkeit und Eleganz."*

**CHATEAU COS D'ESTOURNEL BLANC – Bordeaux Blanc**

Basispreis 116,60 Euro (155,47 €/l)

- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is going to be a wonderful Cos white with green mangoes, sliced apples and crushed-stone character. Green kiwis, too. Full-bodied and very rich with tension and brightness. Fantastic length. 80% sauvignon blanc and 20% semillon."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is soft and ripe. Tropical fruit flavors are balanced by zesty citrus, resulting in a crisp and perfumed character. Drink from 2019."*
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is totally delicious, the best Cos white for many years. There's excellent shape and form through the palate, with a huge intensity of flavour. This has a slatey lick of minerality that almost knocks you off your feet but ends up just making you want more. Flavours of apricot, white pear, tight rosemary and grilled almonds are joined by a succulent structure, austere in all the right places. Good ageing potential. Harvested 5-22 September. 3.17pH. 6% new oak. Drinking Window 2018 – 2030"*
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Cos d'Estournel started making this white wine in 2005 from the Goulée vineyard. The 2017 Blanc is composed of 80% Sauvignon Blanc and 20% Sémillon. It gives beautiful, expressive grapefruit, ripe peach and passion fruit notes with touches of baker's yeast, powdered ginger, nutmeg and beeswax. Medium-bodied, vibrant, racy and with great finesse, it has a very long citrus and tropical fruit-laced finish. With plenty of structure and intensity, it should age reasonably well."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Cos d'Estournel Blanc bristles with energy, much of which comes from the slightly higher amount of Sauvignon Blanc in the blend. White flower and citrus peel notes are nicely pushed forward. The Semillon is felt in the wine's mid-palate creaminess and textural depth. A touch of reduction on the finish – typical for this wine – adds freshness. The blend is 80% Sauvignon Blanc and 20% Semillon."*

**CHATEAU COS D'ESTOURNEL – PAGODES DE COS – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 41,60 Euro (55,47 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a tightly wound second wine with dark-berry, hazelnut and chocolate character. Full body, integrated tannins and a fresh and bright finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a succulent wine, ripe with rich fruit. It is soft, but with a firm core that keeps the structure together. It has the fine juiciness that is typical of this vintage—the tannins take a supporting role to the powerful fruit. This well rounded wine will be ready from 2022."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is enjoyable right off the bat, with its firm dark chocolate, liquorice and cassis character, joined by licks of gourmet patisserie swirling through – exactly what you expect from Pagodes de Cos, without losing its sense of restraint. I like the subdued power, and it seems more in the style of 2014 than 2015 or 2016. It's a touch austere but appealing, with a sumptuous touch that keeps it in the Cos stable. 60% of production went to the second wine this year, almost entirely from separate plots. Just 20% of the plots are interchangeable between grand vin and second wine, depending on the vintage character. Drinking Window 2024 – 2038"*
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot. Harvested 12–30 September. 30% new oak. pH 3.71, IPT 61. Much more scented than the Goulée just tasted, with lovely dark-red fruits here. Sweet cassis and a light floral note. Delicate but harmonious structure, cool and silky, extremely silky, very fresh, apparently delicate but persistent too. Elegant and fresh right to the finish. Succulent and beautifully balanced."*
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"This is the second label of Cos d'Estournel, which accounted for about 55% of production in 2017. A blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos has a deep garnet-purple color and exuberant notes of crushed blackberries, red currants and cassis with touches of charcuterie, black soil and garrigue plus a waft of lavender. Medium-bodied and very fine-grained, it has great intensity and vibrancy with a good long, fruity finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos, which is being matured in 30% new oak (half of the Grand Vin), has a very clean and pure bouquet with black cherries, boysenberry jam and Indian ink. There is certainly impressive intensity here considering this is the deuxième vin. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin. It is furnished with pretty blackberry and wild strawberry notes laced with white pepper and a subtle graphite seam. It has good sustain in the mouth with a "Pauillac" inspired finish in terms of discrete austerity and tannic backbone. I admire the focus here and even though there is not huge length this should age well. Tasted twice with consistent notes."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Les Pagodes de Cos is pliant, supple and quite approachable – in other words everything a second wine should be. Succulent red cherry and plum fruit is pushed forward in this soft, inviting Saint-Estèphe. Floral notes add lift. Hints of chocolate, leather and spice add shades of nuances throughout. In 2017, Pagodes represents 60% of the production. The blend is 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot."*

**CHATEAU COS LABORY – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 31,60 Euro (42,13 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Cos Labory is deep garnet-purple colored and scented of blackberry pie, cassis and pencil shavings with touches of violets, garrigue and mossy bark. Medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of ripe, grainy tannins, it has lovely freshness and impressive length."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Bold tannins mark this dense wine, though it has plenty of ripe black fruit to balance. It's a wine that is set for medium-term aging. Spice, ripe berry flavors and acidity are coming together well. Drink from 2023."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Cos-Labory has a commendable bouquet with clean, crisp aromas of blackberry, smoke and light tobacco scents. There is no greenness here, a trait that can spoil some vintages of this Saint-Estèphe. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, plenty of ripe brambly black fruit with a sense of mineralité on the finish. Hey...is this the moment when Cos-Labory produces a great wine? Looks that way here. I look forward to re-tasting this once in bottle and will keep my fingers crossed."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"Tight, intense dark fruits and good weight are joined by bristling tannins. 50% new oak shows a little more than is strictly necessary, but it should settle in over the next few years - be sure to give it 5 to 6 years before opening. Drinking Window 2023 – 2034"*
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"Fruchtiges, samtenes, dichtes, fein opulentes Bouquet, schwarze Beeren, schwarze Kirschen, Lakritze, Tabak. Fruchtiger, voller Gaumen mit süsser Frucht, feinem Tannin, breiter Struktur, dunkler Aromatik, langer, aromatischer Abgang."*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Rather sophisticated for the vintage, this is velvety and linear with fresh acidity, firm tannins and a juicy finish."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU HAUT MARBUZET – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 35,50 Euro (47,33 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Haut-Marbuzet has a typical plump, fruit-forward bouquet with red plum, strawberry preserve and dark chocolate aromas. If you appreciate this property's forward, fruit-driven style then this will suit you to the ground. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin and moderate depth. It is a little more conservative towards the finish and oaky at the moment, a vintage constrained by the growing season unlike in 2016. Whilst not as complex as the top tier Saint-Estèphes, I feel there is some drinking fun to be had here given three or four years of ageing."*
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Haut-Marbuzet is terrific. Wild flowers, grilled herbs, sage, mint and sweet red cherries are laced throughout. Distinctly floral and medium in body, Haut-Marbuzet captures the personality of the vintage nicely. The 2017 is pleasantly rustic and full of character."*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and chewy young red with a solid center palate of berry and currant character. Fresh finish."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU LA HAYE – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 16,00 Euro (21,33 €/l)

**CHATEAU LAFFITTE CARCASSET – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 16,50 Euro (22,00 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The inky-colored 2017 Château Laffitte Carcasset gives up a tight, compact bouquet of black raspberry and cassis fruit, hints of sweet oak, medium-bodied richness, and ripe, yet present tannin. It's a beautiful, concentrated, impressive Saint Estèphe that has outstanding potential, and then some."*

**CHATEAU LAFON ROCHET – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 42,80 Euro (57,07 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Solid, ultra-clean 2017 with a very pretty core of fruit and chewy tannins. Flavorful and fresh. Extremely long and focused."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Packed with smoky tannins and crisp fruit, this is a firm and structured wine. With attractive acidity as well as a woody flavor, it will develop steadily over the medium term. Drink from 2023."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a lovely St-Estèphe this year, firm and bright with bristling fruit right out of the gate - hugely unusual to see that this year. This is one of my favourites, and is totally charming with its cassis and damson fruit, but it's the juice and friendly tension that sets it apart. Silky and enjoyable. Buy. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lafon-Rochet has matured in 50% new oak and the remainder in one-year old. I have to say, the bouquet is very expressive with plenty of blackberry, wild hedgerow, oyster shell and pressed flower that blossom in the glass. It is very well defined and more sophisticated than I have detected in recent vintages. Perhaps this is the first vintage where the new winery, replete with concrete vats, has really played a serious role in meliorating quality. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, quite saline in the mouth with just a hint of black olive. There is a slightly grainy texture with a sustained peppery finish, completing a crisp and vivacious Lafon-Rochet that should please many wine-lovers. Expect this to land at the top of my banded score."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lafon-Rochet is wonderfully deep and fleshy, but in the mid-weight style that is typical of the year. Dark red and purplish fruit, lavender, licorice, spice and leather all flesh out in this attractive, if somewhat understated, wine from Lafon-Rochet. Silky tannins accompany the mid-weight finish nicely. The 2017 is a very pretty wine, although it is a touch light in this vintage. Tasted three times."*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LILIAN LADOUYS – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 19,10 Euro (25,47 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Lilian Ladouys is deep garnet-purple colored and very plummy on the nose with hints of red and black currants, dusty soil and Marmite toast. It's soft, medium-bodied and plush with plenty of juicy fruit and good length. The blend is currently 50% Merlot, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot."*

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. The opulence of this wine balances the serious layers of tannins to give a wine with rich potential. Its spice and firm tannins will allow it to age. Drink from 2023."*

- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Lively, with a mix of red and black cherry fruit lined with lightly chalky tannins and flickers of savory and lilac. Has a touch of toast and light twinge of austerity at the very end."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lilian Ladouys was picked from 20 to 29 September and matured in 40% new oak. It has a perfumed, floral bouquet with blue and red fruit, a subtle chalkiness in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannin, pinched on the mid-palate with a tightly wound, slightly austere finish. Not bad but it will need three or four years in bottle. I would like more charm to develop and indeed, when I encountered this growth towards the end of my trip, I felt that it was beginning to show more personality."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"From the same family who own Pedesclaux - and, I believe, new owners of several additional St-Estèphe estates. This has bright, juicy fruit in an unfussy and disarming style. It's a very nice wine, and good value too, with plenty to enjoy: uncomplicated berry fruits with touches of cherry and cedar oak. Another St-Estèphe win in 2017. 40% new oak. Yield 50hl/ha. Drinking Window 2022 – 2034"*

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"This Saint-Estèphe estate continues to produce a ripe, sexy wine from their 45-hectare vineyard located on sandy, gravelly, clay soils. The 2017 is a blend of 50% Merlot, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Petit Verdot, all aging in 40% new oak. It's a plump, rounded, sexy beauty that boasts a deep purple color as well as loads of ripe cherry and currant fruits, underbrush, and floral nuances. It can be drunk on release or cellared for 10-12 years."*

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A red with very primary fruit aromas and flavors of currant and green olive undertones. Medium body, juicy and savory. Salty aftertaste."*

**CHATEAU MEYNEY – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 25,30 Euro (33,73 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Meyney has a clean and fresh bouquet with blackberry and raspberry fruit mingling with cedar and light cigar humidior aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent, ripe tannin and a fine bead of acidity. I find this surprisingly juicy in style that probably belies the structure underneath. This will be one of the more approachable Saint-Estèphe wines in this vintage, but one that I find well made."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is more proof of the consistency of Meyney. It has clear oak finessing, well held together with a cinnamon dusting and white pepper spicing, giving a gourmet edge with its own character. This feels finessed, contemporary and accomplished; a pretty complete package. This perhaps doesn't quite have the generosity of 2016, as the tannins are a little more tightly-drawn, but this is still good. Retasted several times and it stands out for its quality. Harvested 15 September to 5 October. Hubert de Boüard is consultant, with Anne Le Naour technical director. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very nicely done with a lithe yet structured core of dark fruit and round, juicy tannins. Medium to full body, a driven line of acidity and a long finish."*

- 18,5 Punkte WEINWISSER

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU ORMES DE PEZ – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 26,80 Euro (35,73 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This finely structured wine is balanced with nothing in excess offering attractive acidity and a light touch of tannin. It is fruity, bright and developing quickly. Drink from 2023."*

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Les Ormes de Pez was matured in 45% new oak with 13.42% alcohol. None of the vines were touched by frost. Cropped at round 50hl/ha, it has a clean, pure red cherry, blackcurrant and cedar-scented bouquet, more Pauillac in style than Saint-Estèphe. The palate is well balanced with ripe tannin that feel more malleable than previous vintages at this stage, a little saline in the mouth with a silky smooth finish. This will be delicious over the next couple of decades and I suspect it will be more approachable than the 2016. Don't ignore this."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"Ormes has managed another good vintage after a run of them. This is a lovely wine and a buy for me. Succulent, bristling and charming, it has juicy brambled fruit extraction and tension. It doesn't take itself too seriously, just asking to be loved. The fruit spectrum is rich with blueberries and damsons, with integrity and a swirl of vanilla bean oak. Includes 6% Cabernet Franc in the blend. No need to wait too long for this. 45% new oak. Drinking Window 2022 – 2035"*

- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 51% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot, 13.42% vol. Alkohol) Herbes, leichtes Bouquet, rote und blaue Beeren, Johannisbeeren, Tabak, Rauch. Mittelkräftiger, gut kerniger Gaumen mit mittlerer Frucht, gutem Tannin, muskulöser Struktur, feiner Aromatik, gut trockener Abgang."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"The density for the vintage is impressive with dark-berry and cherry character. Medium to full body, velvety tannins and a fresh and bright finish. Linear and driven."*

**CHATEAU PHELAN SEGUR – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 39,90 Euro (53,20 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has a core of dark plum and cherry paste flavors, with waves of warm tobacco and smoldering charcoal checking in on the finish. Has character and a bit more depth than most of its peers in the vintage."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is tight and firm with a linear precision and dark fruit. Medium to full body. Bright and lightly juicy. Pretty center palate. A poised and focused young wine."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. The oak is currently quite forward and powerful in this young wine, which needs time for the fruit to come through. But the fruit is there, with black currant acidity and freshness showing in the background. Let the wine soften and don't drink before 2024."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"New owner, Philippe Van de Vyvere as of 2017. This is a wine that settles into the glass. It has confident, firm and rich fruit, good aromatics and structured tannins that have been well extracted. Bristling, young and a clear life ahead of it. The tannins vibrate through the palate but are very much at the front of the mouth right now, raring to go. Exceptionally good for the vintage. Retasted several times. Drinking Window 2025 – 2037"*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Phélan-Ségur, was harvested as late as possible, starting on 14 September with the Merlot and starting the Cabernet around 27 September and finished around mid-October. It is matured in 50% new oak. It appears to show more red fruit on the nose than its Saint-Estèphe peers, just a little disjointed at first but melding together with time, raspberry and briary scents mixed with dried rose petals. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannin, quite foursquare and masculine, needing more flesh to come through on the finish."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Phélan Ségur is powerful, brooding and intense, but also has more than enough fruit to stand up to the tannins. Dark red/purplish fruit, smoke, incense, charcoal embers and gravel give the wine much of its distinctive savory/earthy personality. Time in the glass brings out a more floral, red-toned quality that is hugely appealing. Phélan Ségur has the potential to be one of the dark horses of 2017. Certainly, this is a very strong showing relative to the vintage and where Phélan has been in the recent past. In 2017, the Grand Vin contains an unusually high amount of Cabernet Sauvignon (65%), much of which was able to hang until early October, with 34% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Winemaker Fabrice Bacquey opted to reduce exposure to oxygen during fermentation with the goal of maintaining as much freshness in the fruit as possible. Tasted two times."*

**CHATEAU SERILHAN – Saint Estephe**

Basispreis 15,50 Euro (20,67 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is firm and silky with a solid core of blueberry and dark-chocolate character. Medium to full body and a linear finish. Driven and focused red."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"There's always lovely texture and flesh in this wine, and it's a success in 2017, with an intense end of summer fruit feel and a cinnamon edge. It's clearly been carefully worked to soften those tannins, delivering structure without closing the fruit down. Around 3ha of the 12.54ha estate were affected by frost. Harvested 18 September to 5 October. 78% of production for the grand vin, 22% for the second wine. 37% new oak. Hubert de Boüard is consultant. Drinking Window 2022 – 2034"*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Sérilhan has a lovely, quite opulent bouquet with pure black and red fruit infused with minerals and graphite, becoming more tertiary with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, a fine bead of acidity, well-integrated oak and a caressing, silky smooth finish. Excellent."*

**Margaux**

**CHATEAU BRANE CANTENAC – Margaux**

Basispreis 64,90 Euro (86,53 €/l)

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"A lovely wine that sits extremely prettily though the palate, with a seductive expression of florality and blackberry fruits. It's not as powerful as the past two years, but is skilfully worked with soft grilled oak notes. It doesn't sacrifice the excellent quality that this estate has been producing. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Dark currant, berry and fresh herb character. Full-bodied, juicy and flavorful. Very structured. Solid finish and length. Better than 2014?"*
- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Brane-Cantenac opens with a good burst of fruit, but then loses some intensity in its mid-palate and finish as the tannins clamp down on the fruit. In this tasting, the 2017 comes across as a bit slender. Some of that may be attributable to the relatively high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon (74%) in the blend. Two thousand seventeen is also the first vintage to include Petit Verdot. All those details aside, the 2017 is an attractive Brane-Cantenac built on persistence."*
- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A light singed alder hint leads the way here, along with light bay leaf and savory notes, while the core of gently steeped black cherry and plum fruit fills in slowly. Shows modest intensity through the finish but the flavors knit nicely."*

- 19 Punkte VINUM: *"Seit mehreren Jahren glänzt Brane durch große Harmonie und Frische, umwerfende Eleganz und Delikatesse. 2017 ist keine Ausnahme: Der Wein besitzt umwerfenden Charme und Liebreiz, Frische, Schliff, Glanz und große Länge; eine Sünde wert."*

**CHATEAU CANTENAC BROWN – Margaux**

Basispreis 48,30 Euro (64,40 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A bright savory streak leads off here, offering fresh cassis and bitter plum fruit flavors. A tangy mineral note runs through the finish. A pure and elegant wine that should fill out a bit more with the élevage."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a very pretty cabernet sauvignon with currants, raspberries and blueberries. Bright and vivid. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a fresh and clean finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine has tight black-fruit flavors with some stalky acidity on the palate. It is a bright, fruity style, backed by fine tannins and a fresh black-currant character on the finish. Drink from 2023."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"The dial is just a little more turned-up here compared to most Margaux this year, but it works. Subtle charred oak notes are evident on the nose, with tight, savoury cassis and bilberry running through the mid-palate without dipping at all. It ends well, with a breadcrumb trail of carefully placed fruits. Nobody is going to call this broad-shouldered or a fruit bomb, but it is successfully expressed and really elegant, with layers of flavour. It's a wine that should be lovely to open in around eight years, so a little earlier than usual, but with good ageing potential. Drinking Window 2024 – 2038"*
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"With a larger proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon this year, the blend is 67% Cabernet Sauvignon and 33% Merlot. Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Cantenac Brown leaps from the glass with exuberant notes of cassis, warm plums and black forest cake with touches of violets, dark chocolate, cloves and cigar box plus a waft of lavender. The palate is medium-bodied and firm with fine-grained tannins and tons of freshness, finishing with plenty of black fruit and perfumed layers."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Cantenac Brown feels a little disjointed on the nose, not quite as ripe as its peers with moderate fruit intensity. There is just a little greenness that nags away in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, quite grippy tannins. This is a structured and more masculine style of Cantenac Brown, although it manages to deliver plenty of finesse towards the finish and there is commendable length. I would just like a little more charm by the time of bottling. Tasted on three occasions."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Cantenac Brown is dark, plush, and powerful. Black fruit, chocolate, spice, new leather and licorice notes infuse this plush, voluptuous Margaux. There is no shortage of depth or intensity, that much is clear. This is an especially potent style. Technical Director José Sanfins lowered temperatures in fermentation and chose to handle the wines minimally with the goal of avoiding the extraction of hard tannins. Tasted three times."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU DESMIRAIL – Margaux**

Basispreis 36,60 Euro (48,80 €/l)

- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Plenty of blueberries and blackberries with hints of spices and green tea. Medium-bodied, tight and focused. Outstanding depth of fruit for the vintage."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU D'ISSAN – Margaux**

Basispreis 58,30 Euro (77,73 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This sneaks up on you with a pretty density of ripe fruit such as plums and strawberries. Full body, layered and ripe tannins set this young wine up for a tannic and fruity finish."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Attractively fruity, this wine comes from an estate that lies close to the Gironde estuary. It is full, with layers of crisp and juicy black-currant fruit, with attractive acidity and a light touch of tannins. Drink from 2022."*
- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is rather lovely this year. It has a real depth to the fruit, with a brush of caramel through it and a highly appealing cigar box twist on the finish. It doesn't quite have the voluptuous ripeness of 2015 and 2016, but there's plenty of Margaux elegance, precision and touches of florality. They weren't badly affected by frost here, so they had a healthy yield of 43hl/ha. A complete wine with beginning, middle and end. 50% new oak. Drinking Window 2024 – 2040"*
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The deep garnet-purple colored 2017 D'Issan (a tentative blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot) opens with crushed blueberries and black plums notes with hints of cassis, licorice and violets. Medium-bodied with a firm and finely grained frame, it has oodles of freshness lifting the ripe black and blue fruits to a long, perfumed finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 d'Issan was picked from 18 September to 3 October, the earliest since 2003. It was cropped at 43hl/ha and matured in 50% new oak. It has an elegant and understated bouquet with blackberry, black truffle and pencil lead aromas, quite Pauillac in style compared to previous vintages. The palate is medium-bodied with fine definition, quite saline in the mouth with black fruit, tar and minerals towards the lightly spiced finish that lingers in the mouth. It will benefit from several years in bottle but this continues a purple patch for this historic Margaux."*
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 d'Issan is plump, juicy and forward. There is lovely depth and texture to the 2017, but without the explosive energy that has characterized some recent vintages, including the 2015 and 2016. Plush fruit, silky and soft tannins all add to the wine's considerable appeal. I expect the 2017 will drink well with minimal cellaring. In 2017,*

*d'Issan is a wine of finesse, persistence and nuance rather than power. The blend is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot. Harvest started on September 18, the earliest since 2003. Quite unusually, there was no break in between the picking of the Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Indeed, some of the younger vine Cabernet came in before all the Merlots were in. Tasted four times."*

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Ungemein saftig, frisch, so fruchtig, dass man glaubt, in frische Trauben zu beißen, geschmeidiges Klasse Tannin, große Länge, herrlicher Wein auf dem Niveau der besten Jahre!"*

**CHATEAU D'ISSAN – BLASON D'ISSAN – Margaux**

Basispreis 24,90 Euro (33,20 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is round and velvety with a juicy and fruity character and an undertone of sweet strawberries. Round and full-bodied. Sweet tannins."*

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU DU TERTRE – Margaux**

Basispreis 39,10 Euro (52,13 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 du Tertre is a distinctly powerful, savory Margaux. A rich concoction of jammy dark fruit, smoke, leather, licorice, tobacco and game melds together in this pliant, inviting Grand Vin from du Tertre. All the elements are beautifully woven together in a silky, succulent du Tertre that will drink well with minimal cellaring. As always, du Tertre has a very distinctive wild character, but the 2017 appears to have more than enough depth to provide balance. Overall, this is a strong vintage for du Tertre, with lovely fruit presence and terrific balance."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING:

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 du Tertre was picked from 14 September to 2 October, matured in around 45% new oak. The blend has been 85% completed. It has a very pleasant bouquet, pure blackberry, briary and more iris than violet aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine line of acidity, very harmonious and for want of a better expression, appears to be a Margaux that wears its heart on its sleeve. This will be worth seeking out once in bottle. Tasted on three occasions."*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Medium garnet-purple colored and composed of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, the 2017 du Tertre gives expressive notes of black berries and cassis with pencil lead, bay leaves and lavender hints. The palate is medium-bodied with a good core of open-knit fruit and plush tannins lifted with great freshness, finishing on a perfumed note."*

- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright and breezy in feel, with damson plum and bitter cherry fruit laced with light savory and thyme notes. Gently persistent acidity shows on the finish."*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU DURFORT VIVENS – Margaux**

Basispreis 51,60 Euro (68,80 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Durfort-Vivens is potent, but also quite structured and forbidding at this stage. The very high percentage (91%) of Cabernet Sauvignon in this vintage gives Durfort much of its character. Classically austere in the best sense of the term, the 2017 looks like a wine that is going to need a good bit of time to unwind. Grilled herbs, smoke, tobacco and incense develop in the glass, and yet the 2017 is only showing some of its cards. Yields are down about 35% because of frost, but the damage was mostly contained to parcels in Soussans as opposed to those that inform the Grand Vin."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very long and driven on the palate with asphalt, blackcurrants and violets. Full body, tight and intense. Hints of hazelnut at the end. Demeter certified biodynamic."*

- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Firmly tannic, but also rich in ripe black-fruit tones, this is going to be a fine wine as it develops. The pure berry flavors shine through the structure and acidity. Drink from 2024."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Charming and stylish, showing bright floral lift throughout while red currant and raspberry fruit, along with mineral and rooibos tea notes, glide through the silky finish."*

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"There's impressive depth to the cassis fruits here, with the same amount of Cabernet as in 2015 (although 2016 was even higher, at 94%). The vines are up to 60 years old and are planted on clay-sand-gravels along with some deeper gravel soils. There is a beautiful balance in this wine, showing great persistency but not shouting, and the fruit has a clear line of sight. Very low sulphur, expected to be 55ppm. 60% new oak. Biodynamic. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*

- 19 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU FERRIERE – Margaux**

Basispreis 39,90 Euro (53,20 €/l)

- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A very precise and center weighted red with very attractive blackberry and blueberry character. Tight and long. Demeter certified biodynamic."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A sanguine note leads off here, giving this a lively feel, while gently mulled cherry and plum fruit glides in behind. Floral nuances check in on the elegant finish."*

- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. There are plenty of firm tannins here as well as fine blackberry fruit. It is a crisp wine, with the intense acidity of the vintage. Spice and a dry core show the need for aging. Drink from 2024."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Ferrière has a deep garnet color. Surprisingly, the bouquet is driven by the oak at the moment, a trait that I rarely find with respect to this Margaux during en primeur, though the weather*

*may have accentuated that at the time of my tasting. The palate is medium-bodied with densely packed black fruit laced with cedar and graphite. It is a solid Margaux, perhaps just missing the finesse of the 2016 and it needs to muster just a little more refinement once this is in bottle. If it does then you should have a fine Margaux on your hands."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Ferrière is a decidedly powerful wine. Succulent black cherry, plum, new leather, menthol, gravel and smoke flesh out in this dense, pliant Margaux. Even with all of its forward fruit, the 2017 possesses terrific supporting structure and tannic backbone. There is a good bit of depth and intensity to back things up. The 2017 is beautifully done. Frost damage was minimal at just a few percent."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is fairly austere on the attack, really pulled in, but then it opens with time in the glass. Excellent dark spicy cassis notes lead into an elegant and juicy palate. I can see a real comparison to 2014 - a very good wine with lots to enjoy, real vivacity and persistency. It's aged in concrete vats (lying on their side). 40% new oak. Certified organic since the 2015 vintage and undergoing biodynamic conversion. Drinking Window 2025 - 2038"*

- 18 Punkte VINUM

#### **CHATEAU GISCOURS – Margaux**

Basispreis 57,40 Euro (76,53 €/l)

- 90-93+ Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Giscours is a terrific, and also a worthy follow up to both the 2015 and 2016. Rich and pliant in the glass, the 2017 exudes notable depth in its super-ripe dark cherry, plum, chocolate, leather and menthol flavors. Above all else, the 2017 offers a striking combination of juiciness, freshness and brightness, with terrific depth and plenty of nuance. The 2017 finishes with notable creaminess and textural elegance. This is very nicely done."*

- 93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Giscours, picked 15 September to 5 October, is matured in 50% new oak with around 5 or 6% of vin de presse. It has a perfumed bouquet with black fruit, a touch of oyster shell and iris, very pure and quite sensual in style. It does not make an immediate impact but rather grows on you. The palate is medium-bodied, the mouthfeel supple, smooth and harmonious with fine-grain tannin, perhaps just missing a little structure towards the conservative, straight-laced finish. That suggests it will be an approachable Giscours compared to the 2015 and 2016, but one with breeding and class. Tasted on three occasions."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, the medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Giscours is scented of crushed black currants, blackberry tart and black raspberries with touches of Indian spices, Sichuan pepper and violets plus a waft of chocolate box. Medium-bodied with wonderful freshness defining the palate and elevating the red and black fruits, it finishes with a nice ripe, grainy texture paving the way."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A mix of savory and mint notes lead off here, followed quickly by juicy dark plum and black cherry fruit. Light anise and iron hints show on the finish. Fairly breezy and open in feel throughout."*

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Auch hier kommt der herrliche, blumig-frische Ausdruck des Jahrgangs zur Geltung; im Mund von großer Eleganz, transparent, sehr, sehr lang, herliches Himbeerfinale, von größter Finesse."*

#### **CHATEAU LABEGORCE – Margaux**

Basispreis 24,70 Euro (32,93 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Beginning with the 2009 vintage, Labégorce Zédé was folded into Labégorce, both of which are owned by the Perrodo family (as is the recently acquired Marquis d'Alesme). Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Labégorce gives pronounced black fruits, blackberries and black plums with suggestions of underbrush, lavender and bay leaves. The palate is medium-bodied, ripe, plump, juicy and expressive with plush tannins and good length. The current blend is 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot."*

- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. High amounts of wood mark this wine from the start, giving a more toasty impression than fruity. It is austere, only hinting at the fruit that should develop. WHold until 2024."*

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Fresh and lively, with red and black currant fruit gilded with lilac and sandalwood notes. A fresh mineral edge shows on the finish. Nicely rendered."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Labégorce was picked 15 September to 4 October and matured in 45% new oak. It has a perfumed bouquet with rose petal and violet aromas infusing the dark cherry and raspberry pastille notes. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin and a fine line of acidity. There is some vanillary oak to be subsumed during the élevage, wood tannins just lining the mouth on the aftertaste. But this is a finely made Margaux that should age well over the next 15 to 20 years."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"An excellent Labégorce, full of rich black fruits, textured and layered. A great success in the vintage, with a mouthwatering delivery that holds itself with confidence. It's not hugely intense, as is often the case this year, but makes up for it with a poised delivery and firm, juicy tannins. Drinking Window 2025 - 2038"*

- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Labégorce checks in as 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot (which is slightly more than normal), 8% Cabernet Franc and the rest Petit Verdot, aging in 45% new French oak. Its vibrant purple color is followed by a beautiful bouquet of crème de cassis, crushed flowers, classy oak, and graphite. With medium to full-bodied richness, an awesome texture, and ripe tannin, it's up with the top wines from the appellation. Tasted twice. This is an estate readers need to have on their radar."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A juicy and rich red with lots of fruit and wet-earth character. Medium to full body, ripe tannins and a fresh finish."*

**CHATEAU LA GURGUE – Margaux**

Basispreis 20,80 Euro (27,73 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a really beautiful wine with a clarity that delivers gorgeous dark fruit and firm and silky tannins. Long and polished. Demeter certified biodynamic."*
- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Focused, with a beam of dark currant fruit flecked with anise and singed alder hints. Maintains good energy through the stylish finish."*

**CHATEAU LASCOMBES – Margaux**

Basispreis 68,30 Euro (91,07 €/l)

- 95 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 92-95 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Lascombes gives up lovely scents of roses and lavender over a core of kirsch, crushed black plums and black raspberries with a waft of cinnamon stick. Medium-bodied with a rock-solid frame of firm, ripe, grainy tannins, it has a great core of muscular fruit and lingering spicy notes on the finish."*
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lascombes is a very promising wine. Unctuous, super-ripe and flamboyant, the 2017 packs a serious punch. Crème de cassis, blackberry jam, spice, new leather and sweet French oak add to the wine's racy personality. Although Lascombes is not an especially typical Margaux, it is super-expressive today. That said, it is my belief that wines made with this sort of intense, concentrated approach need to be bottled early because there is a significant risk of the fruit drying out during élevage."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a fruity wine, with attractive cassis flavor and some crisp acidity. It has plenty of fresh fruit and acidity that lead into a bright finish. It is not a powerful wine, but it will be easy to drink from 2023."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Loads of plums, spice, exotic flowers, and damp earth jump from the glass of the 2017 Château Lascombes. Possessing sweet tannin, surprisingly ripe, concentrated fruit, a seductive texture, and medium to full body, it's a classic Margaux from this vintage that can be drunk young or cellared for 15-20 years."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEFF LEVE
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and firm with dark-berry and chocolate character. Some mahogany, too. Medium-bodied, firm and silky. But should fill out with elevage. Shows potential."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is just a little bit off the pace, yet it's a wine that I really enjoy, and you can see the careful construction through the palate. The smoked cedar oak is there, and the redcurrant and raspberry fruits are textured, layered with attractive damsons. It's just not delivering on the excitement that this estate has been so adept at achieving in recent vintages. Drinking Window 2025 – 2036"*
- 18 Punkte WEINWISSER: *Dichtes Granatrubin mit violetten Reflexen. opulentes Brombeerbouquet, dahinter intensive Veilchen, Schokonoten, Cassis und Holundersaft. Am kräftigen Gaumen mit reifem Tanningerüst und viel Muskeln bepackt, feinsandiges Extrakt. Im langen, gebündelten Finale ein voller Korb mit blauen Beeren, dunklen Edelhölzern und Schlehengelee. Potenzialwertung!*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LASCOMBES – CHEVALIER DE LASCOMBES – Margaux**

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,87 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A linear and tight palate of dark fruits and hints of crushed stones. Medium-bodied, firm and a bright."*
- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Chevalier de Lascombes is a very appealing and expressive second wine from Lascombes. Crème de cassis, licorice, smoke, lavender and cloves all flesh out in this fruity, succulent Margaux. There is plenty of potential, especially if the 2017 goes into bottle with this level of fruit purity."*

**CHATEAU LA TOUR BESSAN – Margaux**

Basispreis 16,50 Euro (22,00 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. A finely crafted wine from an estate owned by a member of the Lurton family. It is dense, pure with great black-currant fruit and layers of firm tannins. Developing well, the wine should be ready to drink from 2023."*

**CHATEAU LA TOUR DE MONS – Margaux**

Basispreis 18,30 Euro (24,40 €/l)

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"Dark cherry and plum fruit are nicely pushed forward in the 2017 La Tour de Mons. Pliant and succulent in the glass, with soft curves and plenty of juiciness, La Tour de Mons is quite pretty in 2017."*

**CHATEAU MALESCOT SAINT EXUPERY – Margaux**

Basispreis 48,30 Euro (64,40 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Malescot St. Exupery is scented of crushed red and black cherries, warm plums and mulberries with touches of roses and wood smoke. The palate is medium-bodied with plenty of vibrant red and black fruits and soft, plush tannins, with a long, perfumed finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"Malescot Saint Exupéry comes across as very ripe in 2017. There is no shortage of depth or intensity, but ripeness is pushed to the edge, while the wine's structure – arguably its greatest signature – seems to be lacking. I don't see much typicity in the 2017. Malescot Saint Exupéry is often one of my personal favorites in Margaux, but the 2017 left me wanting more of its typical character and personality. Tasted two times."*

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Malescot St. Exupéry has a simpler bouquet than recent vintages with high-toned red cherry and raspberry fruit, quite "warm" compared to its peers and it would benefit from a little more delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin. It is not a complex Malescot St. Exupéry but I admire the balance and focus. There is plenty of tightly wound red berry fruit laced with cedar and smoke, quite finessed towards the finish with a long spicy aftertaste. I would just like the aromatics to step up to the grade of the palate, so let's see how this shows once in bottle."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A breezy and fresh style, with pretty damson plum and cherry fruit lined with high-pitched floral and savory notes. Elegant mineral details run through the silky finish. Pure and graceful, showing sneaky length."*
- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A fantastic 2017 from Margaux with a deep and ripe core of fruit in the center palate. Silky and juicy tannins. Full body, plenty of fruit and a long, flavorful finish."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is fairly substantial on the palate, although the fruit is just a notch below full ripeness. They have done a good job here, producing an enjoyable wine. There is evidence of winemaking on show which is skilfully carried out, but it just finishes a little short. Enjoyable medium term drinking from owner Jean-Luc Zuger. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a fruit-driven wine, packed with a strong black-currant character and bright acidity. The tannins are light, though they lend ample structure for medium-term aging. It is more about freshness and attractive fruit. Drink from 2023."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU MARQUIS D'ALESMÉ – Margaux**

Basispreis 36,60 Euro (48,80 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot, the 2017 Marquis d'Alesme Becker is very deep purple-black in color with lovely baked plums, black forest cake and tapenade notes with suggestions of grilled meat and wild thyme. The palate is medium-bodied and intense with very firm, grainy tannins and fantastic freshness, finishing with great length and depth."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Warm and friendly plum sauce and blackberry puree flavors drape easily while light licorice snap and black tea accents fill in the background. The fresh acidity is nicely embedded."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Marquis d'Alesme offers terrific depth and resonance, but with a bit more freshness than has been the norm in recent years. Bright red stone fruit and expressive floral notes abound in this very pretty Margaux, but what impresses most is the wine's sense of balance. For that reason, I won't be at all surprised if the 2017 turns out even better than this note suggests. Tasted two times."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"Rich in colour, with spicy cinnamon and black pepper notes followed by a silky texture in the mouth with good persistency. It's a success in the vintage, layered and appealing with a gourmet dash of grilled oak. It's confident and extends its hand, with a nod to Margaux typicity. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 18 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A Kunz): *"Mineralisches, würziges, kräftiges Bouquet, blaue und schwarze Beeren, Kohle, Lakritze, Tabak. Dichtverwobener, klassischer Gaumen mit viel gutem Tannin, fein muskulöser Struktur, kräftiger Aromatik, samtener, dichter Frucht, langer, aromatischer, herber Abgang."*
- 93-95 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Brought into the US exclusively by Jeffrey Davies, the 2017 Château Marquis d'Alesme Becker might just be the finest wine from this estate to date. Made from 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot and the rest Petit Verdot, aged in 65% new French oak, its deep purple color is followed by a gorgeous perfume of crème de cassis, black cherries, crushed violets, and cedary spice. Possessing terrific purity of fruit, medium to full body, building tannin, and a great finish, this balanced, impeccably made 2017 will need 2-4 years of cellaring and keep for two decades or more. It's a gem in the vintage and readers owe it to themselves to check out this estate, which has an undeniably gorgeous terroir."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A very solid Marquis with dark-berry and dark-cherry character. Medium to full body, firm tannins and a fresh finish. Very pretty."*

**CHATEAU MARQUIS DE TERME – Margaux**

Basispreis 41,60 Euro (55,47 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Marquis de Terme is wonderfully deep, fleshy and seductive. A wine of real charm, the 2017 possesses striking depth and nuance. Black cherry, plum, licorice, menthol and chocolate are all fused together in this decidedly racy, succulent Margaux. The 2017 was super-polished and exceptionally beautiful both times I tasted it. In a word: terrific."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is almost caramel on the nose, with a clear damson sweetness in the mouth along with dark cassis notes that add some welcome acidity. It shows good cohesiveness and is rich, dark and concentrated. The oak is used liberally but effectively. It may close down fairly tightly for the next six to eight years, but there is good potential here. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Solid Margaux for the vintage with currant and berry character. Medium to full body and a juicy finish. Mineral and dark-chocolate undertones."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Marquis de Terme has a clean, conservative, slightly tertiary bouquet with touches of black truffle and smoke. It just needs a little more energy. The palate is medium-bodied with fine definition, quite focused and poised, albeit missing the depth of the previous two vintages. I noticed a lick of dark mocha appearing towards the finish that just blurs its definition. It is quite an easy-drinking Marquis de Termes to enjoy over the next 10 to 12 years."*

- 88-90+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Marquis de Terme offers delicate raspberry tart and blackberry pie notions with hints of potpourri, baking spices and dusty soil. Medium-bodied with a velvety texture and just enough red and black fruits in the mouth, it finishes on an earthy note."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Enticing, offering ripe plum and raspberry fruit that has melded nicely with light incense and black tea hints. Stylish through the finish, with fine acidity letting this hang prettily."*

**CHATEAU MONBRISON – Margaux**

Basispreis 29,70 Euro (39,60 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Monbrison comes across as a bit compact today. There is good persistence, but the mid-palate is a bit lean. It will be interesting to see if the 2017 fleshes out a bit. The red berry and floral flavors are attractive."*
- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Elegantly styled, with a sanguine thread running through the core of gently mulled plum and cherry fruit. Light sandalwood and black teas notes weave in."*

**CHATEAU PALMER – Margaux**

Basispreis 266,00 Euro (354,67 €/l)

- 92-95 WINESPECTATOR: *"This is solidly ripe, with juicy energy adding extra lift to the mix of plum, cherry and blackberry fruit. A super-fresh iron streak checks in, along with mouthwatering bay and savory notes. This stands out from the pack."*
- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe black fruits are held aloft by a core of firm tannins. The juicy black-currant flavors are full, rich, generous and structured. This wine is already beautifully balanced, harmonious and with a fine, medium-term future, nothing in excess. Drink from 2024."*
- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a sexy and well-formed 2017 with very velvety and suave tannins that go on for minutes. Full-bodied, soft and round. Extremely long and last for minutes."*
- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"It's very interesting to watch a 'super-second' risk scaling back the muscular attributes of its wine. The key, says director Thomas Duroux, was building the blend carefully and using the press wines to preserve the mid-palate (12% press in this wine, around the same as the 2015). It's less powerful and concentrated than the last few vintages, and yet the wine feels sculpted and sewn into place. The fine tannins are extremely clear and precise, and there's a purity of fruit expression that gives an overwhelming initial impression. The aromatics are really striking, offering an abundance of violet notes on the nose with huge finesse. It just gets better and better in the mouth,, and the tannins do that slow-build thing that is so disarming. This has clear ageing potential. Very low SO2 use for the past few years, in keeping with their biodynamic principles. Just one plot of Petit Verdot for the grand vin was hit by frost. Harvested 20-29 September. 11,000 cases of Palmer, representing 55% of the crop. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*
- 19 Punkte VINUM: *"So durch und durch sinnlich, Frisch und elegant, perfekt ausbalanciert, präzise gezeichnet, seidenweich und himmellang ist Palmer auch nur selten! Einer der Hits des Jahres."*

**CHATEAU PALMER ALTER EGO – Margaux**

Basispreis 66,50 Euro (88,67 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Lively, featuring lots of lavender and savory hints mixed with black cherry and plum flavors. Shows a light bramble note. Open-knit, with juicy energy on the finish."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Soft and silky, this is a rounded, ripe wine. It has just enough gentle tannins to sustain the generous black fruits and acidity. This is going to be a ripe, fruity wine as it develops. Drink from 2022."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows excellent body and depth of fruit. Rich and very deep. Layered and flavorful. Solid and chewy. Serious second wine."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"The blends for the grand vin and second wine are similar this year. This is carefully presented, accomplished and precise, with fresh mint and peony notes on the nose followed by bright and vibrant black fruit flavours. It's extremely pretty, with some lovely floral notes. The yield was 38hl/ha as they lost a few plots to frost over to the west of the appellation. 13.5% press wine. 45% of overall production, representing 9,000 cases. IPT 66. Drinking Window 2024 – 2038"*

**CHATEAU PRIEURE LICHINE – Margaux**

Basispreis 37,40 Euro (49,87 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is really fresh and layered with currant, berry and floral aromas and flavors. Medium-to full-bodied, integrated and polished. Beautiful. Very focused. More cabernet in the blend than normal. Possibly at the same level as 2016."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright and fresh, with a mix of raspberry, pomegranate and plum notes guided by light floral and spice notes. Shows a brambly edge on the finish. On the lighter side but offers good energy."*
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Prieuré-Lichine is another in a series of utterly gorgeous wines that have emerged from this château in recent years. The construction of a new cellar a few years ago seems to have made a huge difference in the precision of the wine. Soft, supple and gracious, with gentle contours and silky tannins, the 2017 is pure class. Succulent red berry, plum, rose petal and mint infuse this gracious Margaux. The blend is 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot. The increase in Cabernet Sauvignon is a reflection of a desire to gradually build the wine on a core of Cabernet rather than a response solely to the conditions of the year. Stéphane Derenoncourt and his team continue to do a brilliant work at Prieuré-Lichine. Tasted two times."*

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Prieuré-Lichine has a light, slightly earthy bouquet that is endowed with less fruit than some of its peers. There is just a touch of greenness here, though not to a degree that bothers me. The palate is medium-bodied with fine definition, a crisp line of acidity and a pretty, quite harmonious finish. It actually finishes with more panache than I expected though it does require more length."*
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is the definition of a wine to buy in an off-vintage. It has the signature of the last few years, but in an early-drinking package. It's a little oaky and smoky for sure, but handles it well and delivers punch and personality without overstating the case. Ripe damson fruits help to deliver impact, even if the fruit is generally a touch below the exuberance of the last two years. Planted in the vineyard to 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Soft and juicy, this is an open style of wine. The wood flavors are apparent, giving it a toasty character. At the same time, it has plenty of blackberry concentration to create an attractive, fruity core for medium-term aging. Drink from 2023."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU RAUZAN GASSIES – Margaux**

Basispreis 49,60 Euro (66,13 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and lightly chewy with pretty dark fruit, stone and real terroir character. Firm and silky. Very pretty. Better than 2016?"*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a fruity, well-balanced wine. While the wood aging shows strongly, so does the fruit. It makes for a generous pour that will age well. Drink from 2023."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Rauzan Gassies offers good depth, but firm tannins and angular contours convey a feeling of rusticity. Even so, the 2017 finishes with real weight and gravitas. It will be interesting to see if it acquires a bit more finesse during the course of its aging."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU RAUZAN SEGLA – Margaux**

Basispreis 73,30 Euro (97,73 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla is a fleshy, seductive wine. Soft contours and ripe silky tannins add to the wine's immediacy and sheer appeal. The viticultural and winemaking team has succeeded in adding finesse and detail to the Grand Vin without altering its classic sense of structure and proportion. A vertical explosion of fruit laced with expressive floral notes build into the finish in a classy, understated Margaux that hits all the right notes. Hints of tobacco, crushed flowers, leather, licorice and dried cherry add the closing shades of nuance. What a gorgeous wine this is. Tasted three times."*
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"Rich, tight and deep, this wine has been extremely well handled in a vintage that suits this elegant style. There isn't the depth and complexity of expression that was seen in the previous two vintages, but it gets across the signature of the estate in an earlier drinking form - the absolute essence of what you want in a trickier vintage. If priced well, it's a buy. Drinking Window 2026 – 2038"*
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is tight and focused with a super precise palate of blackberries, blackcurrants and hints of flowers. Full body, linear tannins and a long finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla is matured in 50% new oak with 14% vin de presse, which was apparently from the high quality Cabernet this year. It has a fascinating bouquet with pure blackberry, iris, crushed stone and a light estuarine influence that becomes stronger with aeration, just a faint touch of oyster shell developing in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin, crisp acidity, very elegant and refined, possibly the most feminine Rauzan-Ségla in recent years with a silky smooth finish. It is not the instant showstopper like the 2015 – this is more understated and needs time for its quality to be fully appreciated. Tasted on three occasions."*
- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Composed of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot and sporting a deep garnet-purple color, the 2017 Rauzan-Ségla (Rausan-Segla) has a profound nose of cassis, warm blackberries and black plums with touches of baking spices, violets, mocha and smoke plus a waft of garrigue. Medium to full-bodied with a great core of sustained, energetic black fruit, a frame of fine-grained tannins and a lively backbone, it finishes with great length."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Fresh, showing damson plum and bitter cherry fruit laced with a savory streak and boasting a bright iron note, this has a mouthwatering edge thanks to the acidity, which creates a very refined structure for this elegant red."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Von schon fast beängstigender Präzision, stilvoll, elegant, geschmeidig, Frisch, lang, herliches Himbeerfinale. Superb."*

**CHATEAU SIRAN – Margaux**

Basispreis 25,50 Euro (34,00 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Siran should certainly be an outstanding wine. Giving up lots of black fruits, charcoal, and graphite notes, it's medium to full-bodied, nicely concentrated, and with solid ripeness and depth. It's an impressive effort from Margaux."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Sleek, with dark cherry and plum pâte de fruit notes stretched out over a licorice thread. Offers an elegant, spice-infused finish."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A beautiful red with dark berries, hints of chocolate and hot stones. Full body, tight and polished tannins and a clean finish. Well done."*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "*Barrel Sample. This producer needs to be careful with the wood aging lest it smother the fruit. However, the good news is that the fruit is there, as well as fine, firm tannins. Together, they give this juicy wine great aging potential. Drink from 2024.*"

## Pessac Leognan

### **CHATEAU BARET** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 20,20 Euro (26,93 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*Ripe and intense with sliced cooked apples, lemons, limes and peach pie. Dense, full and layered. Vivid acidity.*"

### **CHATEAU BOUSCAUT ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 28,30 Euro (37,73 €/l)

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*Bright and fruity with a clarity and freshness. Hot-stone character, too. Medium to full body, a solid texture and attractive mouthfeel.*"

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "*Barrel Sample. Ripe and spicy, this wine has great fruit allied to firm tannins. It is juicy, full of black currant flavors and fine, ripe acidity. This wine should age well, drink from 2022.*"

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: "*It's interesting to see that at Bouscaut they have dialled down the high percentage of new oak used in the past few years, displaying an intelligent response to a vintage that can be unforgiving of too much. They have worked extremely well with what the vintage has given, showing great finesse on the black fruits, with liquorice and damson and fairly bouncy austere tannins. The grilled notes do a good job of deepening the overall experience without smothering it. Austere yet well made. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036*"

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Bouscaut has a clean, quite precise but tightly coiled bouquet that takes time to open in the glass, eventually revealing black cherry, boysenberry and light cassis aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannin, a fresh line of acidity and a pleasing sense of focus. No, it does not possess the length of the best vintages of Bouscaut that I have tasted at this stage, but there is admirable precision and it could end up as a great value.*"

### **CHATEAU BOUSCAUT BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 31,60 Euro (42,13 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "*Barrel Sample. Fresh and crisp, this wine has wonderful spice, citrus and minerality as well as a tightly textured finish. It will age well over the medium-term, meaning it should be ready to drink from 2022.*"

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: "*This has grilled edging with a whiff of rubber reduction that clears in the glass. In the mouth there's a good weight of fruit and great tension. It's well held together and, as with the reds, the oak is far less evident this year. It will be interesting to see whether this is a style change, or the influence of the vintage. Citrus is joined by some elderflower and white flower notes that lift the palate. Plenty to enjoy here. Drinking Window 2019 – 2030*"

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Bouscaut Blanc has an attractive almond and white flower scented bouquet that gradually unfurls in the glass. The palate is fresh on the entry with a fine bead of acidity, smooth in texture with a touch of lemongrass on the finish. I am a little cautious with my score here although I am fully aware how well this shows once in bottle so it may deserve an upgrade down the line.*"

- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: "*The oak is a little more evident here than on the three Graves 2017s just tasted in the UGC line-up. More spice and a hint of smoky reduction. More serious and yet still has lovely freshness. Mildly chewy, full, deep and creamy. Very good and persistent.*"

### **CHATEAU BROWN ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 22,90 Euro (30,53 €/l)

- 88-90 Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*The 2017 Brown is deep garnet-purple in color with quite a spicy nose, offering black cherries and blackberries at the core plus a waft of potpourri. The palate is medium-bodied with elegant fruit and well-played, soft tannins, finishing with a lively lift.*"

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*A fresh Pessac with notes of citrus and blackcurrants. Grainy and tight on the palate, following through to a medium finish.*"

- 88-90 VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Brown offers a mélange of red and black fruit on the nose, not quite as well defined as the best Pessac-Léognans that I have encountered en primeur, but it delivers satisfying intensity. The palate is fleshy on the entry with a fine bead of acidity, slightly sharp tannin with a strict and quite linear, iodine-tinged finish.*"

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "*Barrel Sample. This is a spicy wine with form tannins that are deliciously integrated with the ripe black currant flavors. It has enough structure, as well as smoky wood flavors, to age well. Drink from 2022.*"

- 89-92 WINESPECTATOR: "*Lively, featuring a mix of damson plum, cherry and currant flavors, with savory hints and a light tar streak. Fresh through the finish. Well-knit overall.*"

**CHATEAU BROWN BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 26,60 Euro (35,47 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The Brown 2017 Blanc is a little closed, with lemon juice and fresh pears notes plus coriander seed and white pepper. The palate is medium-bodied, elegant and very mineral in the mouth, with a racy backbone and nice length."*
- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A bright and vivid white with sliced-apple and -lemon character. Some white pineapple, too. Medium body and a fresh finish. Very good depth."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Brown Blanc, matured in 60% new oak, has an appealing, tropical-tinged bouquet a tad oaky compared to its peers, though I feel that will be absorbed with time. The palate is creamy in texture, offset by a fine thread of acidity, not the most complex kid on the block and yet there is a caressing, almost lilted, honeyed finish mixed almond and praline that you cannot stop yourself falling for. Yes, it leans a little towards the commercial side, but its drinkability and potential enjoyment it will give cannot be denied."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a finely perfumed wine, with a creamy texture of ripe yellow-stone and pineapple fruits. It is also crisply imbued with tight citrus flavors and a mineral character. Drink from 2020."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A plump style, with a brioche frame forming around the core of yellow apple and white peach flavors. Shows a light flash of macadamia nut."*
- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU CARBONNIEUX ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 33,30 Euro (44,40 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Features a dark profile, with plum and black currant fruit layered with tar and warm anise notes. Offers modest grip. A streak of savory adds lift on the finish."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Dark berries with hints of dark chocolate spices. Medium to full body. Juicy finish."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine, with its tight fruit and core of dry tannins is concentrated and dense. It has black currant stalkiness and a cool feel to it, giving intense acidity. Drink from 2023."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"They have controlled the extraction extremely well here, and it has some lovely delicacy on the attack, with firm blackberry and blueberry fruits - the fruit register is on the fresh side but they have handled it with precision and care. It stops a little short, but the aromatics are very clean and elegant, and highly appealing when you give it time to unfurl. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Carbonnieux has a light blackberry and raspberry scented bouquet with faint touches of iris developing through with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, a fine bead of acidity; quite structured in style with a firm and slightly obdurate finish that just needs a little more flesh. This year I would opt for its white counterpart."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Carbonnieux is a dark, fleshy wine. Cedar, woodsmoke, tobacco, crème de cassis and incense are laced into a core of deep, plush fruit. Today, the 2017 is perhaps a bit burly and rough around the edges, but it is certainly not lacking in personality. Black cherry, chocolate, new leather and incense punctuate the potent finish."*

**CHATEAU CARBONNIEUX BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,67 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Friendly white peach and honeysuckle notes breeze through, with a kiss of brioche at the very end."*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very salty and flavorful with sliced green apples, limes and green pears. Medium-bodied, layered and flavorful. Plenty going on here as always. Minerally."*
- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Spice and toast give this wine attractive complexity as well as ripeness. It shows abundant, concentrated yellow-fruit notes as well as a fine texture. It is still very young and will be better from 2021."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"Right off the bat this has richness and concentration, with peachy creaminess through the mid-palate but without sacrificing tension and lift. It's a fine example of what 2017 can deliver in the best whites, and should age very well. Drinking Window 2020 – 2030"*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The Carbonnieux 2017 Blanc is scented of grapefruit and squeezed lemons with a touch of lime leaves and chalk dust. The palate is medium-bodied, crisp and clean with great intensity and a long racy finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Carbonnieux Blanc has an impressive bouquet with scents of Granny Smith apples, crushed stone and nettle. There is certainly impressive intensity here – a bouquet that means business. The palate is well balanced with crisp acidity. This is one of the most sophisticated white Carbonnieux that I have encountered at this stage with wonderful mineralité and veins of ginger furnishing the finish that convey brio and confidence. This should evolve into an outstanding Pessac-Léognan."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU CLOS MARSALETTE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 20,30 Euro (27,07 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"A blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Clos Marsalette sports a deep ruby color as well as medium-bodied, perfumed notes of blackberries, crushed violets, leafy tobacco,*

*and bay leaf. It's seamless, elegant, and incredibly polished, with ripe tannin. It shows the more charming, forward style of the vintage, yet should age nicely on its balance and purity."*

- 90-92 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight center palate of dark fruit and hints of dark chocolate. Walnuts, too. Medium to full body and firm and silky tannins. Smart winemaking."*

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Lovely dark plum and cassis flavors are creamy and alluring in this red, while dark tea and iron notes flow underneath. The long finish is quite suave, with a nice mineral note throughout."*

**CHATEAU COUHINS LURTON ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 26,60 Euro (35,47 €/l)

- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is rich in ripe, juicy black currant notes. Finely integrated tannins already promise ripe fruitiness and a generous future. Drink from 2023."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Fresh and pure, with a tasty beam of cassis and cherry puree flavors flecked with a light iron hint. Sleek finish."*

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Some pretty cool fruit to this young wine with blackberry and mineral character. Medium body, firm and silky tannins and a delicious finish. Very well done for the vintage."*

- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU COUHINS LURTON BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 28,30 Euro (37,73 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The Couhins-Lurton 2017 Blanc opens with aromas of apples, pears and peaches with a touch of baking bread. The medium-bodied palate is zesty with plenty of pear and stone fruits flavors in the mouth, finishing long."*

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a bright, crisp wine, with intense citrus acidity as well as rich apricot and quince flavors. It is textured and full of minerality, with a crisp finish. Drink from 2020."*

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Very fresh, with verbena, tarragon and mâche notes streaking to the fore while lemon curd and white peach fruit catches up quickly. Really solid."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is lovely, bright and mouthfilling. Firm stone fruit flesh is joined by a saline lick on the finish. A lot to get your teeth into. Drinking Window 2019 – 2028"*

- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The white at this estate appears to be better than the red. The 2017 Château Couhins is all Sauvignon and offers a brilliant bouquet of white peach, tart pineapple, toast, and ample minerality. Fresh, focused, and lengthy on the palate, it's a beautiful wine."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"The sauvignon blanc character is popping out of the glass. Sliced lemons with green-apple character. Full-bodied, flavorful and long."*

- 19 Punkte VINUM: *"Von schierer Mineralität, schlank, aber sehnig, von nicht enden wollender Länge von Cassisblüte und Holunder: die absolute Klasse."*

**CHATEAU HAUT BAILLY** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 99,90 Euro (133,20 €/l)

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with a medium to full body, a solid center palate and a long and integrated finish. Very fine, polished and refined. Creamy tannins. Hints of bitter orange."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Bold and dense, this wine is packed with tannins, ripe berry flavors and intense black fruit notes. Impressive, it is showing richness now and a fine future. Rich tannins and a firm dry core will allow the wine to age well."*

- 95 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 17 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN

- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"This reminds me of 2001 more than most wines I've tasted, and perhaps it's no surprise that a vintage that required a skilful touch and a belief in the power of elegance should do well at Haut-Bailly. It's hugely pure and restrained, with great aromatics and extremely well placed bilberry, cassis and mulberry fruits. The tannins are fine and poised, set against cigar box with touches of charcoal and slate. They build through the palate, but remain slightly austere on the finish, with a bounce to them that suggests they are going to age beautifully. They kept the vineyard team for three weeks in July, because the vines kept throwing out green shoots after the June rains. Harvested 13-29 September, the vines were around two weeks ahead all the way through the season. The yield was 28hl/ha overall, but only 2hl/ha on the frosted parts, compared to 40hl/ha for the unaffected areas, 50% of production going into the grand vin. Malo was finished by the end of November, but the vats are still separated and there will be final blend in May 2018 (which is what they always do). 4% of Cabernet Franc finishes the blend given below. Drinking Window 2026 – 2042"*

- 17,5 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"0% new oak. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 4% each Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Harvested 13-29 September. pH 3.74 (almost the same as in 2016).*

*Very dark with purple rim. Oozes elegance on the nose, subtle dark fruit, nicely dusty/mineral and a touch of graphite and a slight and attractive herbaceous note. More fragrant with air. Texture is fine like layers of paper, tannins are dry and refined. Lightness of touch but really persistent. Juicy, gentle. Very lovely, the graphite elegance, freshness and fruit go on to the end."*

- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Haut-Bailly is composed of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. Very deep garnet-purple colored, it has a wonderfully spicy nose of cinnamon stick, cloves, anise and fenugreek with core of roses, warm blueberries, black forest cake and black raspberries plus hints of underbrush and iron ore. Medium to full-bodied with firm, ripe, grainy tannins, it has oodles of freshness and great finesse, continuing bright and energetic on the long, minerally finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Haut-Bailly was cropped at 28hl/ha (40hl/ha on non-frozen parcels and 2hl/ha on frosted parcels) and includes co-fermented Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. It is unlikely to contain any vin de presse this year, unlike in 2016, and it is matured in 50% new oak. There is a pH of 3.74 with 13.2° alcohol. It has an attractive and quite opulent bouquet, a mixture of red and black fruit, hints of crushed stone and briary, a light oyster shell influence. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin but there is good backbone here, quite "solid" for Haut-Bailly and it will need to just soften the edges during its élevage. With moderate length and a very attractive graphite aftertaste, this Haut-Bailly will require five or six years in bottle but will repay the patient wine-lover."*
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Haut-Bailly is an understated beauty. Nothing in particular stands out rather it is the wine's balance that impresses most. All the classic Haut-Bailly signatures come through in a mid-weight, super-finesse wine that hits all the right notes. Dark red and blue stone fruits, graphite, smoke, licorice and incense are all laced into the super-expressive finish. The 2017 emerges from the estate's central, most historic parcels, as those vineyards were not affected by the April frost that took with it 30% of the production."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Die absolute Klasse auch in diesem Jahr, vollmundig und sehr dicht, aber auch elegant und besonders raffiniert, mit klasse Tannin, von großer Länge. Superb."*

**CHATEAU HAUT BAILLY – LA PARDE – Pessac Leognan**

Basispreis 36,60 Euro (48,80 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Currant and light herb character underlines the medium body and firm tannins here. Bright and pretty."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Spice and wood flavors are dominant in this wine at this stage although the fragrant fruit also shines through. It has fine juicy blackberry notes and softly integrated tannins. In the end, it is all about the great fruitiness."*
- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"Charming and elegant, the rich blueberry fruit has good density, even if its not particularly generous. The tannins close the fruit down but have life and definition in them, and this will soften and open within four to five years. There was 30% frost in the vineyard, but no second generation fruit was used - in fact, they didn't even have any. The blend has a little more Merlot than usual. 30% of production was used for La Parde, and around 20% for the estate's third wine. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036"*
- 16,5 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"65% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon. Harvested 13–29 September. Winemaker Véronique Sanders said they made sure not to do too much extraction. 30% new oak. Very dark with black core. Dark and fine fruit if not that open at the moment. Just a little hint of oak savour. Super-fresh and quite luscious but so fresh too. Juicy in the middle. Real beauty and quite accessible. Perfect balance with a fine tannin flourish on the finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 La Parde de Haut-Bailly is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon with 35% Merlot. Deep garnet-purple colored, it's scented of crushed blackcurrants, blackberries and pencil lead with touches of garrigue, bay leaves and dusty soil. The palate is medium-bodied, finely crafted and refreshing with lively red and black fruits in the mouth and an herbal lift on the finish."*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Parde Haut-Bailly was not affected by the frost since most of the parcels that were damaged went into the third wine. It has a sweet black cherry, black plum and a touch of violet, nicely defined and quite generous in terms of fruit, especially for a deuxième vin. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, low acidity, rounded in texture with plush black fruit laced with a pinch of sea salt towards the finish. Very fine."*
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Parde Haut-Bailly is showing beautifully today. Pliant and engaging, La Parde is a terrific second wine. The dark red cherry, plum, licorice, spice and new leather are all nicely amped up in this super-expressive, generous wine. Soft contours make La Parde quite accessible young, but there is more than enough freshness to support 20+ years of very fine drinking. The blend is 65% Merlot and 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, which is a little more Merlot than usual."*

**CHATEAU HAUT BRION – Pessac Leognan**

Preis auf Anfrage

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A tight and focused red with dark-berry, chocolate and hazelnut character. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a linear and fine finish. Very refined. Elegant and balanced."*
- 97-99 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. The tannins are the secret of this bold wine granting longevity and great structure. At the same time, the ripe blackberry fruits are rich yet bright and fresh. The wine will take time to mature. Drink from 2025."*
- 98 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 97 Punkte DECANTER: *"A hugely captivating wine, one of the contenders for red of the vintage. There's an incredible plush, dense texture to the fruit here, with just the slightest pulling back on the final section that suggests the damson, cassis and black cherry fruit is not at the full extent of ripeness seen in 2016 and 2015, but there is absolutely no question that this is a successful, rich and well-expressed wine. It's extremely powerful and well constructed, with great tannins and a succulence which grows through the palate. 3.73pH. Drinking Window 2026 – 2042"*

- 17,5 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: "53% Merlot, 6.3% Cabernet Franc, 40.7% Cabernet Sauvignon, harvested 31 August to 29 September. *Colour of black cherries with healthy crimson rim. Warm oak spice over cool dark fruit. Succulent, mouth-watering and so supple. There's a core of pure black fruit and an elegance in both non-sweet fruit and fine-boned structure but all with a discreet generosity. Needs time to meld but it's magnetic in its attraction. Perhaps a little less rich than La Mission but more intense and persistent at this stage.*"
- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "Composed of 53% Merlot, 40.7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6.3% Cabernet Franc, the very deep purple-black colored 2017 Haut-Brion is a little closed on the nose, revealing fresh blackberries, black currants and dark chocolate with suggestions of pencil shavings, beef drippings, tilled soil and cracked black pepper plus a waft of lavender. Medium to full-bodied, it has very firm, ripe, grainy tannins and a lively backbone structuring the tightly knit earth and black fruit layers, finishing with compelling mineral and perfumed layers."
- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "The 2017 Haut-Brion was picked from 31 August to 29 September, the longest harvest ever, matured in 69% new oak with 14.25% alcohol (lower than recent vintages.) It has a more generous bouquet than the La Mission Haut-Brion at this point: black cherries, blueberry, a little confit fruit, hints of warm gravel and clove. It is much more restrained than the previous vintages – cooler and linear. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, nicely structured with more grip in the mouth than the La Mission. What it has in common with the aforementioned is a sense of symmetry. It feels very persistent with a light marine/oyster shell influence on the finish. This probably has the edge over the La Mission Haut-Brion at the moment, but intra-family competitiveness aside, it boils down to a great follow-up to the brilliant 2015 and 2016."
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "The 2017 Haut-Brion is intriguing. Less powerful and explosive than it can be, in 2017 Haut-Brion makes its case with persistence over heft. Time in the glass brings out attractive suggestions of tobacco, game, bacon fat, iron and wild cherry. It will be interesting to see where the 2017 goes from here. Today, it lacks the visceral thrill that makes the best vintages utterly irresistible, even if the phenomenally long finish is a thing of real beauty. The blend is 53% Merlot, 40.7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6.3% Cabernet Franc."
- 19 Punkte VINUM: "Da blieb uns einfach die Spucke weg: so aromatisch komplexy, harmonisch, mit der genau richtigen Dichte, Fülle, Rasse und Eleganz, mit so absolut feinkörnigen Tanninen, so war Haut Brion nicht einmal in den letzten "offiziell" großen Jahrgängen. Wer Ausgewogenheit vor ausufernder Fülle setzt, wird an diesem großen Wein mit seinen "Nur 14,2 Vol-% Alkohol seine helle Freude haben."

**CHATEAU LA LOUVIERE ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 25,80 Euro (34,40 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. *Dark and dense, this wine has an impressive structure behind concentrated blackberry flavors. It is rich, full and with a fine future. Drink from 2024.*"
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "Bright and juicy, with good plum and cherry compote notes lined with dried anise and tar details. Has a grippy feel. Slightly gutsy in style and well done."
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "A pretty core of fruit to this with a mineral, dark-fruit and crushed-stone character. Medium body, firm tannins and a clean finish."

**CHATEAU LA LOUVIERE BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 25,80 Euro (34,40 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "The 2017 La Louviere Blanc is scented of grapefruit, peaches and lemon curd with ginger hints. The palate is medium-bodied, zesty, intense and crisp with a long finish."
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "Very fresh, showing nice cut to the mix of lemon pith, white peach and verbena notes. Offers a light fleur de sel hint, with crunchy energy through the finish."
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "The 2017 La Louvière Blanc has a reserved bouquet at first, one that requires encouragement from the glass, eventually revealing light orange blossom and lemon zest notes. The palate is well balanced with crisp acidity, quite sharp but with persistent length and a residual spiciness that lingers in the mouth. I suspect this will have more to give once in bottle."
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: "The Lurton whites are all a success this year, and this is a lovely bright, zippy and well-defined example. It has some excellent white pear and peach flesh flavours that persist right through the palate. It's great quality with real personality, and should be excellent value. Buy. Drinking Window 2019 – 2026"
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): "Frisches, duftiges, kräftiges Bouquet, Pomelo, fein Zitrus, frisches Gras, Pfirsich. Seidener, eleganter Gaumen mit guter, feiner Frucht, frischer Säure, feingliedriger, fein cremiger Struktur, kräftiger Aromatik, langer, feiner, frischer Abgang. Kann noch zulegen."
- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "I loved the 2017 Château La Louvière Blanc, a juicy, perfumed, yet also textured and concentrated beauty that offers lots of spice, citrus, and orange blossom characteristics. Even in a vintage where the region was slammed by April frost, the Pessac-Léognan region continues to produce a bevy of brilliant whites."
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "Some cream and apple character. Full to medium body and a soft and velvety texture. A friendly and delicious wine already."

**CHATEAU LA MISSION HAUT BRION** – Pessac Leognan

Preis auf Anfrage

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "This is a very tight and focused young La Mission with a pretty center palate of dark fruit and flavors of oyster shell and hints of fresh tobacco. Serious and precise on the finish. 56% merlot, 40% cabernet sauvignon and 4% cabernet franc."
- 96-98 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. *This is a generous, opulent wine with ripe blackberry and hints of spice*

notes sustained by rich tannins. Juicy and packed with tannins, this will be ready to drink young, but will also age over many years."

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"The aromatics here are incredible, and there is the most gorgeous density of black brambly fruit on display. It's graceful but intense, and utterly delicious. It doesn't have the same intensity through the palate as the wonderful 2016, but it really does stand out in the vintage as being extremely good quality. It's going to take its time to come round, so settle in for the long haul. 51% of overall crop. 3.86pH. Drinking Window 2026 – 2042"*

- 18 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"56% Merlot, 4.4% Cabernet Franc, 39.6% Merlot, harvested 4–9 September. Deep cassis colour. Gorgeous restraint of fine dusty dark fruit. Definite graphite/mineral aroma undergirded by fragrant cassis and a light herbaceous note. Delicious pure black fruit, super-fine texture, the tannins fine and supple. Juicy even with its serious elegance. Succulent, long and precisely balanced. Persistent, too. Intensity without weight. All waiting in the wings. On second tasting, the oak shows a little more on the finish but it is in place, not dominating."*

- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 La Mission Haut-Brion, blended of 56% Merlot, 39.6% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4.4% Cabernet Franc, is very deep garnet-purple in color and scented of crushed blackcurrants, blackberries and chocolate-covered cherries with suggestions of cigar box, bay leaves, Indian spices and dusty soil. Medium to full-bodied with very firm, grainy tannins and a racy backbone supporting the taut, muscular fruit, it has bags of mineral and earthy suggestions layering the very long finish."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Mission Haut-Brion was picked from 4 to 29 September and matured in 68% new oak with 14.1° alcohol. It has a more broody bouquet than previous years: dark berry fruit, brown spices, warm gravel and later, a touch of orange rind. This can sometimes be sultry out of barrel and the 2017 falls into that category. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin. This La Mission Haut-Brion is built around a wonderful structure and symmetry. It feels precise with a detailed, saline finish that lingers in the mouth. I can see Jean-Philippe Delmas's comparison with the 2001 though I find the tannins finer in the 2017. Superb."*

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Mission Haut-Brion is a wine of total finesse and class. Pliant and expressive, the 2017 is beautifully layered from start to finish. Bright red cherry, plum, mocha, pomegranate and blood orange all add to an impression of grace and freshness. This is one of the most refined, understated recent vintages of La Mission I can remember tasting."*

- 17,5 Punkt VINUM

#### **CHATEAU LA MISSION HAUT BRION – LA CHAPELLE** - Pessac Leognan Preis auf Anfrage

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Quite tannic but in a very attractive way with blueberries, currants and spices. Medium-bodied, tight and chewy. Show tension and texture."*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Tempting ripe fruit, juicy with black currants and intense acidity keeps this wine fresh but well structured. It is a delicious wine already with fine fruitiness and a layer of tannins at the back."*

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a lovely fragrant wine, less dense and concentrated than the last two vintages but extremely accomplished. It has beautiful aromatics, gorgeous red fruits and an overall feeling of brightness and cohesion. It's fresh, succulent and easy to recommend. Frost only affected 0.3% of the vineyard area, leading to yields of almost 50hl/ha across the two estates in 2017. It was the third earliest harvest on record at Haut-Brion, commencing on 24 August for the whites and 31 August for the reds, with the only real difficulty to overcome being the low levels of sunshine over the summer. 22% of production went into this wine. Drinking Window 2023 – 2033"*

- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"49.2% Merlot, 8.9% Cabernet Franc, 41.9% Cabernet Sauvignon, harvested 4–29 September. Deepest healthy crimson. Very fine graphite nose over scented – violets? – black fruit. Super-creamy richness, moderate intensity but real precision. Bright, juicy and with great purity of fruit, lingering and full-fruited finish with moderated tannins. Mouth-watering freshness."*

#### **CHATEAU LARRIVET ROUGE** - Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 32,40 Euro (43,20 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Pretty sanguine and tea notes lead off here, with silky textured damson plum and blackberry fruit following quickly behind. Lively anise and bramble hints emerge on the finish. This has range and character."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A solid red with almost all cabernet sauvignon this year. Medium to full body, layered and intense. Shows length."*

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe, juicy with plenty of black currant flavors, this wine has solid tannins as well. It has a good depth of flavor, its tannins well integrated into the juicy fruits. Drink from 2023."*

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"Firm, defined fruits and coffee notes are joined by lovely grippy tannins with a sense of bounce. This is slightly drying on the finish, but overall it has good depth and weight. Successful. Drinking Window 2025 – 2037"*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Larrivet Haut-Brion, picked 13 to 28 September with 13.6° alcohol, has a more intense bouquet than its peers with blackberry, wild strawberry and pencil lead. The palate is medium bodied and feels strict and linear in the mouth, almost Pauillac in style. There is plenty of freshness in situ although it feels serious and just needs more fruit towards the finish. I appreciate the style of this Larrivet that may turn out to be one of the more cerebral wines from the appellation, though it is not necessarily one of its most exciting."*

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Larrivet Haut-Brion is magnificent. Frost took out a large portion of the château's parcels. As a result, the wine is a highly unusual blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Cabernet Franc and 5% Merlot. In the glass, the 2017 is rich, sumptuous and explosive, with serious density to match its flamboyant personality. A highly unusual wine, the 2017 has so much to offer. Wow! Now, for the bad news. Production is down 75%. Tasted two times."*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple, the 2017 Larrivet Haut-Brion opens with notes of mocha and damp soil over a core of crushed black cherries and fresh black plums plus a hint of raspberry leaves. Medium-bodied, firm and with a good core of earth-laced black fruits, it finishes a little chewy but with plenty of layered fruit length."*

**CHATEAU LATOUR MARTILLAC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 30,80 Euro (41,07 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This sports some dark plum and fig fruit flavors allied to a gentle and silky structure. A light licorice snap hint echoes through the finish, with sweet spice notes. The polished finish shows a gloss of toast."*

- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"Deep, fleshy and expressive, but in a deceptively medium-bodied style. Succulent blackberry, new leather, licorice, lavender and spice flavors are nicely pushed forward in the 2017. The Cabernet speaks with distinction, while the long, persistent finish makes it hard to resist a second taste. There is a good bit of underlying tannin and structure. The blend is 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 7% Petit Verdot."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has clearly used some oak finessing, giving it an attractive grilled edge that is not at all overpowering, but deepens the overall aromatic expression. It's fairly broad-shouldered, with lovely deep plum and damson flavours. It has the slightest of dips through the mid-palate, but it gathers itself together again to display attractively deep black fruits and tannins that turn chewy but not drying on the finish. Austere, as is the byword of the vintage, but a success. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The inky-colored 2017 Château Latour-Martillac is another terrific wine from this consistent estate. Blackberries, crushed rocks, espresso, and ample herbal notes give way to a medium-bodied, nicely concentrated 2017 that has ripe tannin and a focused, firm style on the palate. Give it 2-4 years and it should keep for a decade."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A dark-berry and dark-chocolate character with spices. Medium body and a delicious finish."*

**CHATEAU LATOUR MARTILLAC BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 31,60 Euro (42,13 €/l)

- 90-92+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The nose of the Lespault-Martillac 2017 Blanc simply sings of honeyed white peaches, waxed lemons, orange blossoms and allspice with touches of elderflower and ripe pears. The palate is medium-bodied, bright, refreshing and lively with wonderful persistence. The final blend is 80% Sauvignon Blanc and 20% Sémillon."*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a classic wine, lightly herbal, textured, crisp in acidity and with an undertow of ripe yellow fruits. It will age well. Drink from 2023."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This sports a profile of crunchy chive, tarragon and mâche flavors, with good energy through the finish. For fans of the brisk style."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Latour-Martillac Blanc is a powerful, intense wine that carries with it quite a bit of structure as well. Sauvignon Blanc gives the wine its bright, focused aromatics, while the Sémillon is felt in the wine's mid-palate depth and creaminess."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"A touch of reduction on the first nose clears to reveal a tight and austere wine that gathers steam through the palate and finishes with bright, juicy, mouthfilling stone fruits. Drinking Window 2019 – 2030"*

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Lovely white peach, citrus rind, and white flower notes all jump from the glass of the 2017 Château Latour-Martillac. Possessing a rounded, pure, layered style on the palate, with bright acidity and a clean finish, it's another incredibly high-quality white from the Pessac-Léognan region."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A dense and salty white with loads of apple, lemon and lime character. Medium to full body. Vivid finish."*

**CHATEAU LESPAULT MARTILLAC ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 21,60 Euro (28,80 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Lespault-Martillac opens with pretty red and black currants, rose hips and dried herbs notions with touches of underbrush and smoked meats. Medium-bodied, elegant and with a lively line, it has a chewy finish featuring red and black fruit layers. The final blend is 65% Merlot and 35% Cabernet Sauvignon."*

- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lespault-Martillac is powerful, bold and seductive, with gorgeous up-front fruit, silky tannins and lovely curves. It will be a number of years before the 2017 hits its stride, but all the elements are in the right place. The purity of the flavors alone is striking. This is a gorgeous wine in the making."*

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Lespault-Martillac, which is made by the team at Domaine de Chevalier, is a Merlot-dominated cuvée that includes 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, all aged in 35% new French oak. It offers a ripe, expansive, nicely concentrated profile to go with classic red and black fruits, smoked earth, chocolate, and dried herb-like aromas and flavors. It's a medium-bodied Pessac-Léognan that will drink nicely on release and over the following 10-15 years."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with blueberry and currant character. Hints of smoke and spices. Medium to full body, firm tannins, a solid center palate and a fresh finish."*

**CHATEAU MALARTIC LAGRAVIERE ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 44,90 Euro (59,87 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The tentative blend of the 2017 Malartic Lagraviere is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple colored, it is a little closed, offering hints of tar, tilled black soil and yeast extract over a core of blackberries and warm red plums plus a waft of bay leaves. Medium-*

*bodied with a good amount of elegant red and black fruits plus delicately played chewy tannins and a lively backbone, it finishes on an earthy note."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. An impressively concentrated wine this is full of rich tannins and dark black plum notes. Its structure and smoky character meld with rich black fruits and spice flavors; this is a wine for aging. Drink from 2024."*

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Juicy, with a supple feel to the cassis and cherry compote flavors. Offers a bright iron note, fresh acidity and a long, polished finish."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Malartic Lagravière is dense, powerful and explosive. Succulent dark cherry, raspberry jam, chocolate, sweet spice and heavy toast notes give the 2017 its extroverted, racy personality. Malartic Lagravière is one of the more flamboyant wines readers will taste in 2017. Tasted four times."*

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"A carefully extracted, well constructed palate delivers a sense of finesse and freshness. The fruit is not particularly expressive on the attack - you need to sit down with this for a while and wait, allow those retracting tannins to soften and unwind. Eventually, a gorgeously pure expression of cassis comes curling through, with liquorice and woodsmoke notes rounding things off. Needs time. Drinking Window 2025 - 2038"*

- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot, 22 hl/ha) Seidenes, elegantes, frisches Bouquet, Heidelbeeren, Cassis, Zedern, Moccajoghurt. Dichterverwobener, mittelkräftiger Gaumen mit feiner Frucht, gutem Tannin, kräftiger Aromatik, fein muskulöser Struktur, langer, feiner Abgang."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky wine with a creamy freshness and firm tannins. Dark berries and wet earth. Medium to full body. Linear and tight."*

#### **CHATEAU MALARTIC LAGRAVIERE BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 56,60 Euro (75,47 €/l)

- 90-92+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The tentative blend of the 2017 Blanc is 80% Sauvignon Blanc and 20% Sémillon. It opens with pretty lemon curd, white peach and fresh pineapple notes with suggestions of honeysuckle and mandarin peel. The palate is medium-bodied, fresh and zippy with wonderful purity and a long, zesty finish."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Rich and warm, this generous wine balances a strongly mineral texture and acidity with ripe quince, apple and pear flavors. It is a wine for aging, likely to be ready to drink from 2023."*

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Really bracing and pure right now, featuring lively lime zest, kiwifruit and tarragon notes. The long, rapierlike finish lingers, with mouthwatering chive and sel gris accents."*

- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Matrin): *"The 2017 Malartic-Lagravière Blanc has a clean, precise and mineral-driven bouquet with touches of smoke and flint hovering like errant school-kids in the background. The palate is very well balanced and full of energy. The acidity neatly counterbalances with saline apply fruit with great persistence on the finish, and touches of lemongrass that linger on the aftertaste. This is one of the best Pessac-Léognan whites that you will find in this vintage."*

- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"Powerful and intense, this has clear Sauvignon character without being grassy. There's excellent depth of expression and a bright, zippy character that leads you through the palate. High, bright aromatics and great persistency. Drinking Window 2019 - 2030"*

- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(80% Sauvignon Blanc, 20% Sémillon, 20 hl/ha) Fruchtiges, feines, frisches Bouquet, fein Grapefruit, reife Ananas, Vanillepuder, grüne Kräuter. Eleganter, feingliedriger Gaumen mit guter Frucht, reifer Säure, kräftiger Aromatik, herber Abgang."*

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Malartic-Lagravière Blanc comes from deep gravelly soils in the Pessac-Léognan region and is 80% Sauvignon and 20% Sémillon brought up in 50% new French oak. It's another terrific white from this vintage. Racy white grapefruit, citrus, and ample minerality all flow to a medium-bodied, exceedingly elegant, crisp, yet balanced white that's going to put on weight with time in barrel and bottle."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAME SUCKLIG: *"Sollid as a rock with so much zest of limes and lemons. Crush stones and limestone. Full-bodied, driven and bright."*

- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

#### **CHATEAU OLIVIER ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 28,30 Euro (37,73 €/l)

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very well done for the vintage with a delightful core of firm yet inviting tannins, plenty of fresh acidity and a taut finish."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Fresh, offering silky textured plum and blackberry fruit infused with light savory and black tea notes. Features a graceful finish, with fresh acidity helping this linger."*

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a dark, smoky wine, packed with dark berry notes, this is rich and full. Its tannins are powerful and will need taming. Drink from 2024."*

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Olivier is wonderfully fleshy and seductive, with plenty of dark berry, chocolate, spice and leather character. Pliant, open-knit and seductive, the 2017 has quite a bit to offer. The blend is 55% Merlot, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 2% Petit Verdot. Tasted two times."*

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Olivier, which has a pH of 3.75, has a slightly floral, wilted violet scented bouquet that takes a while to open up. The oak feels nicely integrated here. The palate is medium-bodied with quite firm, rather rigid tannin. It has a suggestion of chewy black fruit laced with graphite, not long in the mouth but there appears to be sufficient freshness. It just needs to show a little more personality once in bottle."*

- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

Josef Schreiblehner Gewerbepark Lindach B1 84489 Burghausen Tel: +49 172 8525272 josef@schreiblehner.com  
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**CHATEAU OLIVER BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 28,30 Euro (37,73 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This young white shows a wonderful finish. Ripe apples, lemons and some tropical fruit. Full-bodied, dense and layered. A line of vivid acidity runs through the center palate. Very nicely crated."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Enticing, with racy tarragon, thyme and lemon peel notes backed by hints of plump white peach and yellow apple. This should be a winner when it knits from the élevage."*
- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Intensely herbal, this is a concentrated, green wine. Its texture and richness come from the grassy Sauvignon Blanc. It should calm down and develop slowly, so hold until 2023."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Olivier Blanc is terrific. Green orchard fruit, mint, sage and tomato leaf are all given an extra kick of energy from the freshness of the vintage. The 2017 finishes with striking tension and salinity that merely add to its considerable appeal. What a gorgeous wine this is. The blend is 89% Sauvignon Blanc, 10% Sémillon and 1% Muscadelle."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Olivier Blanc has a focused, energetic bouquet with citrus peel, Granny Smith, gooseberry and light saline aromas. The palate is very well balanced with a crisp, malic entry. This jolts the sense into action with sharp acidity although it avoids being shrill. There is something almost Muscadet-like towards the marine-tinged finish that does not quite deliver the complexity of the Carbonnieux Blanc tasted alongside."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU PAPE CLEMENT ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 85,40 Euro (113,87 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The current blend of the 2017 Pape Clement is 55% Cabernet Sauvignon and 45% Merlot. Deep garnet-purple colored, it sings of crushed black cherries, black raspberries and mulberries with hints of lilacs and dusty soil. Medium to full-bodied with a firm, grainy frame and wonderful freshness, it possesses great elegance and effortless intensity with a mineral-tinged finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a hugely dense, extracted wine, possibly too much so, displaying a hard edge that smothers the ripe fruit. Giving it the benefit of the doubt, it certainly will not be drinkable before 2024."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has solid ripeness, with plum and cassis notes flowing through, along with an ambitious oak regimen that results in ample toasted vanilla hints. This clamps down a touch on the finish, but there's good purity and freshness, with fresh acidity buried within, leaving me optimistic."*
- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Pape Clément is fabulous. One of the rare 2017s with a real sense of structure, Pape Clément possesses dazzling intensity from start to finish. A rush of dark cherry, plum, chocolate and grilled herb notes hits the palate as this majestic, towering wine shows off its personality. Time in the glass brings out a brighter and more floral set of flavors. The 2017 is the first vintage made with a portion of whole clusters, an inspiration Bernard Magrez takes from Château-neuf-du-Pape, where he recently bought a small property. Quite simply, the 2017 Pape Clément is a magnificent wine by any measure. Don't miss it. The only problem with the 2017 is that yields are down 40% because of frost."*
- 18 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot) Samtenes, dichtes, komplexes, dunkles Bouquet, Pflaumen, Lakritze, Tabak, Korinthen, Minze, Graphit. Konzentrierter, kraftvoller, an der Grenze extrahierter Gaumen mit dichter Frucht, viel gutem Tannin, muskulöser Struktur, konzentrierter Aromatik, langer, aromatischer Abgang."*
- 94-96 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The Grand Vin 2017 Château Pape Clément is 55% Cabernet Sauvignon and 45% Merlot still aging in 60% new French oak. Harvest ran from the 15th of September to the 3rd of October, and I was able to taste this beauty on three separate occasions. Its deep purple color is followed by a blockbuster bouquet of ripe black cherries, blackberries, blueberries, graphite, and licorice. One of the more powerful, concentrated wines in the vintage, this medium to full-bodied effort has terrific purity of fruit, a mouthfilling texture, and present, ripe tannin. Too many 2017s lack excitement, but that's not the case here. Give bottles 2-3 years and enjoy over the following 15+ years."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Von umwerfend saftiger, rassiger Art, dicht, voll, lang, mit perfekt abgestimmten, feinkörnigen Tanninen, Top-Buy des Jahres."*

**CHATEAU PAPE CLEMENT BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 135,70 Euro (180,93 €/l)

- 94-96+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"A blend of 55% Sauvignon Blanc and 45% Sémillon, the Pape Clement 2017 Blanc gives up profound notes of apricots, spiced pears and apple tart with suggestions of orange blossoms, fresh ginger and beeswax. The palate is medium-bodied with plenty of tightly wound, intense stone fruit and spicy layers supported by fantastic freshness, finishing very long."*
- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is a rich, toasty and spicy pour. With generous and well-concentrated yellow fruits as well as intense minerality, it is set for long-term aging; don't drink before 2023."*
- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Enticing, with a lush brioche frame taking shape around a core of yellow apple, pear, green fig and straw flavors. Shows a long echo of macadamia nut on the finish. Will be on the exotic side and a winner when bottled."*
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"A white of real distinction and class, the 2017 Pape Clément Blanc is textured, racy and super-inviting. Stylistically, the 2017 is more citrus and floral driven than in the past. Tropical notes and the more unctuous feel that are typical of the Blanc are present, but less overt than in the past. Above all else, in 2017 the Blanc stands out for its exceptional purity, nuance and delineation. The Blanc has been nothing else than deeply impressive on the four occasions I have tasted it so far."*

- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has a tautness and an intensity to it, with extremely well placed citrus and white peach flesh, a lick of fresh slate and some wet stones. Good quality. Drinking Window 2020 – 2030"*
- 94-96 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"From a 6.7-hectare parcel of the Pessac vineyard and made from 55% Sauvignon and 45% Sémillon, aging in 55% new French oak, the 2017 Château Pape Clément Blanc offers a powerful, medium to full-bodied profile as well as smoking good notes of pineapple, lychee nut, and exotic flowers. None of the oak its aging is noticeable, it has bright acidity, a stacked mid-palate, and a great finish. It's more elegant and focused than the blockbuster styled 2015, and has a chiseled, elegant style capable of lasting for two decades or more. Tasted three times."*

**CHATEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE ROUGE** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 93,20 Euro (124,27 €/l)

- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Smith Haut Lafitte opens slowly to reveal complex notes of crushed black cherries, black currants and wild blueberries with touches of lavender, pencil lead, cast iron pan and a waft of aniseed. Medium-bodied and elegant with great freshness and quiet intensity, it has firm, grainy tannins and a sustained yet ethereal mid-palate, with a long, energetic, mineral-laced finish."*
- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a solid Smith for the vintage with blackberry and blackcurrant character. Full to medium body, firm and silky tannins and a lingering finish. Excellent potential here."*
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This sits a long way above the second wines this year, and here they are very close to recent successes, with excellent juice running right through the cassis, bilberry, liquorice, dark chocolate and charcoal notes. It's an extremely classical, sculpted vintage with a lovely grilled edge that gives a gourmet, confident feel. It has a velvety texture and finely-placed, flexible tannins that are clearly going to age well. This is a real success, and a testament to their attention to detail - for example, they had 105 pickers in 2016 but 160 pickers in 2017, because with the September rain they wanted to go more quickly. Half of the vineyard is now farmed biodynamically, with full conversion expected for 2020. 60% new oak. 1% Petit Verdot completes the blend given. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*
- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Smith Haut Lafitte is easily one of the highlights of the vintage. Dense, unctuous and impeccably balanced, the 2017 exudes depth from start to finish. Charcoal embers, graphite, menthol, licorice and sage add myriad shades of nuance to the plush, unctuous dark raspberry jam fruit. This is a super impressive showing from Smith Haut Lafitte. I tasted the 2017 two times. On both occasions, the wine showed tremendous aromatic and flavor depth."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has a good core of dark plum and blackberry fruit, with a twinge of licorice snap mixed in. A hint of bramble on the finish, with the vintage's refined, fresh acidity as well."*
- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Smith Haut Lafitte was not affected by frost and is therefore a classic blend matured in 60% new oak. The bouquet demands a little encouragement from the glass this year, eventually opening with floral scents, more iris than violet, flanked by blackberry and bilberry. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin that comes across just a little chalky in style. This feels very cohesive and comes replete with a detailed and nuanced finish that might lack the flair and volume of the 2016, but it is certainly sustained and persistent. Give this four to five years in bottle and subject to optimal barrel maturation this may well land at the top of my banded score."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 111,60 Euro (148,80 €/l)

- 96-98+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"A blend of 90% Sauvignon Blanc with 5% Sauvignon Gris and 5% Sémillon, the Smith Haut Lafitte 2017 Blanc offers up gorgeous, super-intense scents of pink grapefruit, white peaches, kumquats and ginger with wafts of under-ripe pineapple, lime blossoms and crushed rocks. Medium-bodied, it's very polished, sophisticated and wonderfully electric in the mouth, with sparks of citrus fruits, tropical notions and floral perfume exploding on the palate, finishing with epic persistence."*
- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows serious density and beauty with fantastic complexity and dimension. Full-bodied yet so fresh and beautiful. Layered and tight at the same time. Exciting to follow this one."*
- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"A sophisticated, grown up white with the most beautifully placed savoury white peach flesh, shadowed by lime and tea leaves, and enclosed by slate. The fresh tension stands head and shoulders above many wines in this vintage. It's full of personality, zip and complexity, and is clearly going to age beautifully. Drinking Window 2022 – 2034"*
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc is magnificent. In the glass, the 2017 reminds me of the superb 2013, but with less austerity and more depth. Jasmine, lemon confit, white flowers and mint are finely cut. Above all else, the 2017 Blanc is a wine of energy and pure pedigree. I loved it. The blend is 90% Sauvignon Blanc, 5% Sémillon and 5% Sauvignon Gris."*
- 94-97 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Tight, but with a lot to like, from the yellow apple, white peach and star fruit core to the extra brioche, straw, honeysuckle and verbena nuances that weave throughout. Shows weight and drive on the finish. A beauty."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc was deprived of a hectare parcel of 80-year old Sauvignon that was pulled up last year. It has a focused bouquet with mineral-driven citrus fruit, yellow plum and honeysuckle, the 50% new oak nicely integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with taut citrus fruit laced with pineapple and tangerine. There is a subtle tropical undercurrent to this Smith Haut-Lafite Blanc. It fans out generously towards the finish with a long and satisfying, lightly honeyed finish. This is a very fine white Smith Haut-Lafitte, already surfeit with pedigree that should age with style and panache."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 58,30 Euro (77,73 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is really delicious and round with soft and ripe tannins. Full body and juicy fruit. Shows ripeness and balance. A pretty wine to watch for the future."*
- 95 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 93-95+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Domaine de Chevalier Rouge was cropped at 34hl/ha between 11 and 29 September and is matured in 35% new oak for 18 months. It has a vivacious bouquet with quite generous black fruit, raspberry, brine and black olive that is well-defined and focused, if not possessing the complexity of the previous two vintages. The palate is medium-bodied with fine, slightly edgy tannin – layers of black fruit interlaced with melted tar and graphite, closing in a little towards the finish with a gentle grip. I appreciate the deft manner in which this fans out and leaves a mineral residue on the finish. A Domaine de Chevalier of refinement rather than power, one with "buvabilité" or "drinkability"."*
- 94-97 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Tasted no less than four times, the 2017 Domaine de Chevalier is going to be up with the crème de la crème of the vintage. Based on 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, and 5% Petit Verdot aging in 35% new French oak, its deep purple color is followed by an incredibly classic bouquet of crème de cassis, crushed rock, pipe tobacco, smoked earth, and leafy herbs. Similar in style to the 2008, yet with more generosity and charm, it's medium to full-bodied, silky, and elegant, with ripe tannin. Give it a few years and enjoy over the following two decades or more."*
- 94 Punkte JEFF LEVE
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"This stands out among many of the Pessacs this year, with plenty of depth on evidence, and a more obvious personality than most. The liquorice root, cigar and grilled almond notes are perfectly woven through the cassis and bilberry fruit, and here you can feel a slight ripple through the palate, while the tannins have presence and are alive. This feels poised, like it can stretch its wings and go the distance. A great job in this vintage. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*

**DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER BLANC** – Pessac Leognan

Basispreis 93,20 Euro (124,27 €/l)

- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a dense and beautiful DC with serious density and a fabulous layering of fruit. Phenolics are there but they melt into the wine already. Love the acid/fruit balance. A solid and serious white."*
- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc was picked from 31 August until 15 September via several tries through the vineyard that yielded 46hl/ha, with 13.5° alcohol. It has a very attractive, estuarine influenced bouquet with scents of cockle and oyster shell infusing the vivacious citrus fruit. This opens up very nicely with aeration in the glass. The palate is very well balanced with a fine bead of acidity. It feels quite saline and spicy in the mouth with a rather intense citric finish that is very persistent, the aftertaste again, quite saline."*
- 95-97+ Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"I was able to taste the 2017 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc on three separate occasions and it never failed to impress. It should match, if not exceed, the 2015. Gorgeous notes of lemon curd, mint, citrus, white peach, and salty minerality all emerge from this medium to full-bodied white. It doesn't have the sheer scale or sexiness of a sunnier year, yet its purity is off the charts, it has riveting acidity, and a great, great finish. The blend is currently 70% Sauvignon and 30% Sémillon, and it will spend 16 months on lees in 35% new French oak. Don't miss it!"*
- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc is fabulous, but it is also going to need a number of years to be at its very best. Powerful and dense in the glass, the 2017 offers terrific brightness and cut, all backed up with serious structure. Smoke, melon, orchard fruit and mint are some of the many notes that develop as this gorgeous wine shows off its personality. Quite simply, the 2017 has class to burn, but readers will have to be patient. Tasted three times."*
- 91-93+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"As with the red, this really does punch at the top end of the appellation. It's more herbal than some, showing attractive fresh herb notes of rosemary and sage. High quality white peach and nectarine flavours run through the palate, with slatey edges on the finish that are scraping the sides. It's a great wine that is going to age and develop. Oh - and there was a touch of frost here, but Domaine de Chevalier was, of course, well prepared, being located in a vulnerable spot. One-third new oak. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*
- 97 Punkte JEFF LEVE

## Graves

**CHATEAU CLOS FLORIDENE** – Graves

Basispreis 14,90 (19,87 €/l)

- Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Clos Floridene is deep garnet-purple colored and scented of smoked meats and chargrill over a core of blackcurrants and blackberries with a waft of violets. Medium-bodied, firm and with lovely purity, it finishes savory."*
- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. There is an attractive spicy character at the back of this wine, which brings out the richness of the tropical-fruit flavors and the balance with the wood aging. It should age well, and be ready to drink from 2021."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Black cherry and black currant fruit glides through, with light anise and tar accents, staying graceful through the finish."*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Clos Floridène Rouge has a well defined bouquet with blackberry, raspberry, singed leather and light cedar aromas that gain intensity in the glass whilst remaining classic in style. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, plenty of pencil lead infused black fruit with just the right amount of dryness on the finish to beckon another sip. Very fine."*

## Haut Medoc

**CHATEAU ARNAULD** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 21,80 Euro (29,07 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A pretty impressive 2017 that stands out from the pack for its intensity of flavors in the blackberry and blackcurrant spectrum, riper and encompassing tannins and rather chewy finish."*
- 91 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN

**CHATEAU CAMBON LA PELOUSE** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 13,90 Euro (18,53 €/l)

- WINESPECTATOR: *"Gentle cassis and cherry preserve flavors are carried by light chalky tannins. A floral note runs through the finish."*
- 90-92 WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This spicy wine is structured and firm, with concentrated yet juicy cassis flavors. The tannins at the end promise plenty of aging. Drink from 2022."*

**CHATEAU CANTEMERLE** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 27,30 Euro (36,40 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows a polished yet encompassing structure of solid tannins, which support flavors of mulberries and black cherries. Medium-bodied, velvety with rather chewy. Long finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Dry tannins and juicy fruit give this wine its structure while also bringing out the freshness of the vintage. There is a fine, juicy character that is already attractive. Drink from 2023."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a very attractive wine that has been carefully extracted in this vintage. It has a damson fruit expression with real elegance and restrained power, followed by a dusting of cocoa powder and cinnamon (more evident on the second tasting). A little shorter than in 2016, but full of elegance and fine tannins. Drinking Window 2022 – 2038"*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Cantemerle gives up lovely crushed black and red currants notes with hints of kirsch, underbrush and cinnamon stick plus a waft of roses. Medium-bodied with plenty of freshness and a fine-grained frame, it is elegantly expressed and finishes with beautiful harmony."*

**CHATEAU CHARMAIL** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 14,70 Euro (19,60 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Light and fresh with succulent tannins, some nice berry fruit and a pretty finish. A bit dilute now but may fill out during the élevage."*

**CHATEAU LA LAGUNE** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 42,40 Euro (56,53 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Lagune was picked from 12 September until 30 September at 31hl/ha, matured in 50% new oak. It has a very clean and pure bouquet, quite floral in style, with scents of raspberry confit, crushed stone, a touch of mint and pressed flowers. This is precise and focused, one of the most refined bouquet that I have encountered on a La Lagune at this early stage. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannin on the entry that presage a tensile, mineral-driven La Lagune. There is almost a flint-like element to this wine, like the nose, the palate extremely precise with a sustained Pauillac-inspired finish with pencil lead on the aftertaste."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has clear damson flesh to the fruit, a good plummy wine with an elegance and freshness to the tannins. It's good, linear with a precision that you don't find everywhere. This is still not quite at the 2015/16 level of completeness, but delivers from start to finish, and is a wine that should age well. It has a 2001 type of elegance and lift with a tension to the tannins that gives confidence in its ageing ability. Now certified organic, in conversion for biodynamics. Drinking Window 2035 – 2038"*
- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Lies erst einmal sprachlos: so komplex, perfekt abgerundet, von besonderer Rasse, Dichte und Tiefe, mit absolutem Klasse Tanninen war La Lagune noch selten! Gehört für uns zu den Hits des Jahres."*

**CHATEAU PALOUMEY** – Haut Medoc Basispreis 14,20 Euro (18,93 €/l)

- 87-90 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Offers a tangy feel, with a mix of cranberry, damson plum and pomegranate fruit laced liberally with savory and chalk notes. Shows good energy but remains a bit skinny in the end."*

**CHATEAU SOCIANDO MALLET – Haut Medoc**

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,87 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine offers a blackberry fruit flavor framed by crisp acidity and fine-grained tannins. It has a dry core, with plenty of spice and fruit tones to broaden it out."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Sociando Mallet has quite a high-toned bouquet with macerated black cherries, boysenberry jam and top end violet scents. This is a more showy Sociando than of late. The palate is medium-bodied with soft tannin, moderate depth, a more refined wine than I was expecting with a smooth, supple blackberry and bilberry finish laced with white pepper. There is a word I never expected to use apropos Sociando Mallet...gentle."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"One of the most iconic names in Haut-Médoc, this has depth, linearity and good fruit. It is well-handled, with slatey minerality providing a springboard for the cassis fruits, but finishes a little too rapidly. A touch of Cabernet Franc adds a floral touch to the near-even pairing of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. I'd still go with the 2016, but this will be ready to enjoy sooner. Drinking Window 2022 – 2035"*
- 18 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"Dichtes, samtenes, dunkles Bouquet, Pflaumen, schwarze Kirschen, Korinthen, Tabak, Lakritze. Dichtverwobener, aromatischer Gaumen mit samtener Frucht, muskulöser, dichter Struktur, kräftiger, dunkler Aromatik, viel gutem Tannin, langer, dichter, voller Abgang."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows focus and brightness for a 2017 with firm and silky tannins and a vivid character. Fine and polished texture. Beautiful. Close to the 2015."*

**Medoc**

**CHATEAU CLOS MANOU – Medoc**

Basispreis 20,20 Euro (26,93 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A very balanced and refined wine with freshness and brightness. Medium body, fine tannins and a juicy finish."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"Françoise and Stéphane Dief continue to apply a maniacal attention to detail at this estate - destalking by hand, for example - in an appellation that doesn't always reward in terms of price per bottle. This wine has good structure and depth of fruit, and they have clearly worked hard to get intensity without overpowering the basic flavours of cassis and bilberry. Soft liquorice and cedar notes come from the 70% new oak, where some of the wine will stay for 17 months. The rest goes in cement eggs and a small number of clay amphoras. They work organically but are not certified. Drinking Window 2022 – 2032"*

**CHATEAU LES GRANDS CHENES - Medoc**

Basispreis 13,80 Euro (18,40 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A very pretty and tight 2017 with dark-berry, blueberry and dark-chocolate character. Medium body, solid tannins and a fresh finish."*

**CHATEAU LOUSTEAUNEUF – Medoc**

Basispreis 11,00 Euro (14,67 €/l)

**CHATEAU POTENSAC – Medoc**

Basispreis 23,20 Euro (30,93 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Potensac is a blend of 47% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot. Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, it gives lovely red and black plums notes with touches of red currants, pencil shavings and underbrush. The palate is medium-bodied with great freshness and well-judged, chewy tannins, finishing with a lively herbal lift."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Balanced and structured, this wine has plenty of ripe black fruits and attractive acidity. It is juicy, with a black currant flavor and a touch of Cabernet Franc perfume. Already delicious, it will develop quickly."*
- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A bright, high-pitched style, featuring cherry and pomegranate fruit laced with floral and chalk hints. On the leaner side, with the mineral edge holding sway on the finish, but this remains fresh and pure."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This successful wine feels zippy and bright, with good fruit definition. I really like how this takes shape over the course of the palate, starting off with fresh, summery red fruits and slowly expanding through the palate to develop blackberry and hawthorn notes. It's not up to the standard of 2016, but sits between the '14 and '15 in my opinion. Enjoy that waft of coffee smoke on the finish. 54% of grand vin compared to 65% in 2016, so they were being extremely selective. 1% Petit Verdot makes up the blend. Drinking Window 2023 – 2035"*
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Only 54% grand vin (usually 60–65%). 47% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot. TA (sulphuric) 3.61 g/l, pH 3.7, IPT 62. Working with more small parcels than in the past. Deep cherry red. Lovely bright fruit aroma, really fragrant, almost a touch floral. This has lovely freshness in both the acidity and the tannic structure. Extremely fine tannins, almost delicate, and yet there is an underlying power and persistence. Tannins much finer than I recall from previous vintages. One of my favourite wines of the primeurs tastings. Should be GV."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A bright and vivid young red with currant, berry and floral aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, tight and concentrated. Fine tannins."*

## Listrac Medoc

### CHATEAU FONREAUD – Listrac Medoc

Basispreis 14,40 Euro (19,20 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This estate is situated at the highest point in the Médoc, yielding fine, ripe wines. The wood is showing strongly, but so is the fruit. That makes for a ripe, full wine with plenty of blackberry flavors that will age well. Drink from 2023."*

### CHATEAU FOURCAS DUPRE – Listrac Medoc

Basispreis 13,00 Euro (17,33 €/l)

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is tasting beautiful this year, very enjoyable fruit extraction that manages to be intense but not overdone. The tannins are firm but could perhaps be a little more pliable to fully open up the structure of the wine. Classic, with lovely menthol notes and a good example of the work being done in Listrac right now. Planted to 44% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon with the rest Cabernet Franc and a splash of Petit Verdot. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*

- 91-93 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. There are layers of tannins in this wine which offer plenty of structure, while leaving room for the black currant fruit. On the finish, there is a dry core which will allow the wine to age. Drink from 2023."*

## Moulis

### CHATEAU BRANAS GRAND POUJEAUX – Moulis

Basispreis 29,70 Euro (39,60 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Dense and concentrated, this wine has great richness, spice, sweet tannins and layers of opulent black fruits. It will be ready to drink relatively soon, so enjoy from 2022."*

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Blackberry and blueberry character predominate. Medium body, medium chewy tannins and a fresh finish."*

- 90-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"One of the most concentrated Moulis I've tasted (and that's saying something in 2017), the 2017 Château Branas Grand Poujeaux sports a saturated purple color as well as a ripe, sexy, opulent style. Ripe cherries, raspberries, strawberries, spice, and hints of graphite all emerge from this beauty that I'd happily drink over the coming 4-7 years. What a smoking little gem of a wine!"*

- 91-92 Punkte BERNARD BURTSCHY

### CHATEAU CHASSE SPLEEN – Moulis

Basispreis 29,10 Euro (38,80 €/l)

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

### CHATEAU POUJEAUX – Moulis

Basispreis 29,10 Euro (38,80 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very pretty for the vintage with berries, currants and hints of nutmeg. Medium to full body. Savory finish already."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Poujeaux has a generous, slightly smudged bouquet with cranberry, raspberry and cedar aromas, just a little greenness in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, dark berry fruit, black pepper and a little graphite. It just misses a sense of energy that I have found on the finest vintages of this Moulis, although there is a pleasant sappiness that develops."*

## Pomerol

### CHATEAU CLINET – Pomerol

Basispreis 77,90 Euro (103,87 €/l)

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 95-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Alluring, offering fleshy layers of fig, boysenberry and plum compote notes lined with anise and roasted apple wood accents, this is nicely integrated already, with fresh acidity embedded throughout."*

- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Clinet was picked from 19 to 26 September for the Merlot and on 29 September for the Cabernets at 35hl/ha. It is matured in 72% new oak and the remainder one year old. The alcohol is 13.1° compared to say 14.4° for 2016. It has a perfumed bouquet with mainly red berry fruit, top notes of loam and a touch of violet. It is certainly well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, well delineated, and saline in the mouth. It is*

*quite open towards the finish, perhaps with less grip than other Pomerols that I have tasted, but it is undeniably elegant and well balanced with a hint of cured meat cropping up on the aftertaste. Classic Clinet!"*

- 92-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Clinet opens slowly to reveal vibrant red and black fruits: red currants, black cherries, plums and cassis with touches of roses, yeast extract, wood smoke and crushed rocks. Medium-bodied with firm, grainy tannins and a taut, muscular palate of tightly wound fruits and compelling mineral accents, it finishes long with wonderful purity and fragrant earth accents."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Some green-olive and herb character. Medium body, firm tannins and a fresh finish. Shows some solid and linear length on the finish."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Clinet packs a serious punch. Dense, rich and explosive, the 2017 offers tons of pure power, but it also comes across as oaky and lacking the detail of the best years, at least at this stage. A rush of black cherry jam, inky fruit, grilled herbs, lavender, licorice and smoke builds into the pliant, enveloping finish. The 12% Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend speaks with a loud voice. Tasted two times."*

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"High colour extraction with grilled damson on the nose, but the intensity through the palate is a few notches below the brilliant levels they have been achieving at Clinet over the past few vintages. They suffered around 15% frost to their vines, although did not use any second generation fruit in the first wine. Appreciate their extremely careful extraction, and lovely soft black fruits. Drinking Window 2025 – 2036"*

**CHATEAU CLOS L'EGLISE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 74,30 Euro (99,07 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a very juicy red with blackberries, blueberries and hints of chocolate. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a flavorful finish. Tight."*

- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. From a small estate, this wine offers delicious layers of ripe black plum and smoky tannins. It is rich, full, generous and already opulent. Drink from 2021."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Clos l'Eglise comes bursting forth with fresh black plums and black currants notions with hints of black raspberries, black pepper and Indian spices plus touches of lavender and roses. Medium-bodied, firm, grainy and with seamless freshness, it fills the palate with spicy black fruits and finishes long and perfumed."*

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Clos l'Eglise was picked from 6 September to 2 October, the harvest was spread out for almost one month. It is matured in 90% new oak for 18 months. It has a well-defined, very pure bouquet with cranberry, dark cherries, bay leaf and crushed stone. It needs a little time to open in the glass and is not as immediate as the 2016 last year. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, very smooth in texture with a slightly lactic note towards the finish. There is a touch of dark chocolate that infuses the red berry fruit with a subtle liquorice tincture that lingers on the aftertaste. This is a fine Clos l'Eglise although I do feel this year that its stablemate in Saint-Émilion, Barde-Haut, takes the top honor."*

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Clos L'Eglise is a wine that brings together power, tension and energy. There is quite a bit of richness to the fruit, but also plenty of supporting structure. Beams of underlying tannin give the 2017 its drive and sense of direction, while keeping the flavors perked up. Bright red stone fruit, mint and white pepper lead into a sculpted finish lifted by striking floral notes. This is a decidedly tannic, tightly wound Pomerol that is going to require patience, but it is also hugely promising. The 2017 was done in 100% new 300L barrels."*

**CHATEAU FEYTIT CLINET – Pomerol**

Basispreis 57,40 Euro (76,53 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Some good fruit with hints of chocolate and berry character. Medium body, firm tannins and an open finish. Should develop nicely."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The present blend of the 2017 Feytit Clinet is 94% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc. Very deep purple-black in color, it gives up crushed black plums, blackberries and mulberries with hints of spice box, sandalwood and wood smoke. The palate is medium-bodied, firm, chewy and quite earthy in the mouth with just enough freshness and those spices reemerge on the finish."*

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"A wine of real distinction and class, the 2017 Feytit-Clinet possesses tremendous intensity and exceptional balance. Inky black cherry, lavender, charred earth and licorice, along with potent tannins, give Feytit-Clinet its explosive rich personality. As always, Feytit-Clinet is an especially virile, tannic Pomerol. All the elements are wonderfully fused together. The 2017 was tremendous on each of the three occasions I tasted it. In a word: Superb."*

**CHATEAU LA CONSEILLANTE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 166,60 Euro (222,13 €/l)

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and precise with focused tannins and a lovely texture to this young wine. Medium to full body. Compressed and serious. Some salty and dark fruit at the end."*

- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a very rich wine, with opulent Merlot fruit and generous tannins. There is a spicy, perfumed character to the nose, speaking to the Cabernet Franc in the blend. Fine acidity pierces through the ripe black fruits. It will certainly age well and should be enjoyed after 2023."*

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 La Conseillante displays a deep garnet-purple color and simply sings of crushed blueberries, mulberries and ripe plums with suggestions of violets, chocolate box, rose hip tea and a waft of menthol. The palate is medium-bodied with impressive richness at this elegant weight coupled with vivacity and supported by plush, velvety tannins, finishing with great length and energy. This is an arrestingly beautiful expression of this vintage!"*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Conseillante contains a little less Cabernet Franc than usual because four or five rows were damaged by frost. It has a classic Pomerol bouquet with touches of truffle and incense infusing the broody black fruit that take a few minutes to unwind in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, well balanced with a subtle sprinkling of white pepper and fennel. The Cabernet Franc, despite its diminished contribution, is quite expressive towards the balsamic-tinged finish that shows plenty of energy and decent persistence. It is less powerful than the 2016 at this stage but it is clearly a very well crafted, almost sensual Pomerol by winemaker Marielle Cazaux. Tasted twice with consistent notes, this may well settle at the top of my banded score once in bottle."*

- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Conseillante is a wine of total finesse and class. Bright, floral and beautifully lifted, the 2017 is exceptionally polished and nuanced from start to finish. Despite its mid-weight, gracious personality, the 2017 has real staying power. Technical Director Marielle Cazaux gave the fruit about 2 days on the skins, with no SO2 at crush. Cazaux added that the malos were quite fast. The blend is 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc. Frost reduced production by around 15%, while drought further reduced yields in the Franc by a further 10%. As for the wine, well, the 2017 was magnificent on each of the three occasions I tasted it."*

- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

#### **CHATEAU L'EVANGILE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 236,70 Euro (315,60 €/l)

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very fine and velvety tannins in the mouth with juicy fruit that gives dark-berry, chocolate and spice character. Medium to full body. Bright acidity. Harmonious and very pretty. Pure merlot. Reminds me of the 2012, but shows a little more ripeness and suppleness."*

- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This dense wine is packed with intense tannins. The secret to the wine, which is 100% Merlot, is not just the structure but the immensely ripe black-plum and -berry fruits that envelope the dry core, lending opulence and richness. The wine has a lift of freshness on the finish. It will age, and should not be opened before 2024."*

- 18 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN

- 98 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has a lovely silkiness to it, one of the real successes in the appellation in terms of the texture and the quality of the tannins. It's a fairly powerful 100% Merlot with 100% new oak - an unusual combination because the old vine Cabernet Franc was lost to frost in 2017. This is one of the few wines that gets close to the quality of 2016, even if it's not quite there in terms of its completeness. 30 days maceration at reasonable temperatures has brought out the heart of plump blackberry fruit, while delivering subtle tobacco and slate elegance. I like this a lot. 100% organic in the vineyard (2016 was 95% organic) but not certified. 60% grand vin this year, from 40hl/ha. Drinking Window 2026 – 2038"*

- 93-95 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 L'Évangile is deep garnet-purple in color, featuring a profoundly scented nose of plum preserves, smoked meats, chargrill and cigar box with touches of licorice, tapenade, tar and truffles plus an earthy waft of underbrush. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a lovely purity of black and blue fruits, accented with baking spice notions and framed by plush tannins that offer just the right amount of provocative grip, finishing long and earthy."*

- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 L'Évangile is a stunning wine. Frost wiped out half of the potential crop, including all of the Cabernet Franc, which means the Grand Vin is 100% Merlot. Rich, sumptuous and explosive, the 2017 possesses remarkable depth and stunning intensity in all of its dimensions. The purity, energy and textural resonance of the fruit is ravishing. The 2017 saw five days of cold soak followed by 30 days on the skins. Technical Director Jean Pascal Vazart opted for gentle pumpovers and longer extractions than normal. Malolactic fermentation was done in 100% new oak, where the wine is presently aging. A massive, concentrated wine, L'Évangile is going to need a number of years to be at its very best, but it is magnificent, even in the early going. In a word: dazzling!"*

- 18 Punkte VINUM

#### **CHATEAU CLOS TOURMALINE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 136,80 Euro (182,40 €/l)

- 93-96 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The flagship 2017 Enclos Tourmaline comes from a tiny, one-hectare parcel of vines (purchased from Château La Patache in 2012) located right across the road from Château Clinet. This is all clay soils and the wine is 100% Merlot brought up in new French oak. As always, this is a blockbuster styled effort that boasts a saturated purple/black color as well as a huge nose of chocolaty black and blue fruits, licorice, graphite, and earth. With full-bodied richness, a ripe, opulent texture, and sweet tannin, it's a powerhouse from this vintage that mostly produced mid-weight, elegant wines. The vineyard manager and winemaker here is the talented Jérôme Aguirre, who previously worked at Christine Péré-Vergé's vineyards in Pomerol."*

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very structured and dense with ripe tannins and an encompassing mouthfeel for the vintage. Full-bodied, layered and rich. Beautiful fruit and intensity. Only 2,500 bottles made."*

#### **CHATEAU DU DOMAINE DE L'EGLISE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 40,20 Euro (53,60 €/l)

- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO: *"Purple red with violet hue. Elegant and expressive nose, fine fruit, well expressed, great length with wonderful density, elegance and ripe tannins, a great wine"*

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *25% frosted but no second generation fruit used. The grapes here are planted on the deep gravels of the Pomerol plateau, and it has definitely come out of the difficult early season strongly. It's extremely powerful, and very complex in its dark fruit and menthol layering, with a tight tannic structure and an austere character - this is not a vintage for hedonists like 2015 was but is a serious wine with good ageing ability. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is fresh and intense with blueberry and dark-fruit character. Minerals and stones. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a bright finish."*
- 91 Punkte JEFF LEVE: *"Dominated by Merlot with a bend of 97% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc, the wine opens with flowers, chocolate and plums. Medium/full bodied with soft, silky tannins and more chocolate covered plums in the finish, the wine has freshness and should age reasonably too."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Domaine de l'Eglise lost one quarter of its production to frost, the final yield clocking in at 32 hl/ha. It is matured at 51% new oak. This has a more precise bouquet than the La Croix du Casse that is also owned by the Castéja family of Borie-Manoux offering scents of blackberry, redcurrant, truffle and light brine aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with a fine core of graphite-tinge black fruit that segues into a nicely detailed, almost flinty finish that was much more precise in the sample shown at Trotteville towards the end of my visit. It should drink well for up to 12 years, possibly more, although I would have liked to see more flair, more complexity. 2012-2032."*

**CHATEAU GAZIN – Pomerol**

Basispreis 79,90 Euro (106,53 €/l)

- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A dense and flavorful red already with dark-berry, seaweed and wet-earth undertones. Full body and round and chewy tannins. Green olives on the finish. Serious for the vintage."*
- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Focused, with cherry and cassis notes driving through, flanked by sined vanilla accents and a light briar edge. Just a touch toothy through the finish, but should fill out well enough."*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Gazin has a very classic Pomerol bouquet with black brambly fruit infused with black truffle and subtle raspberry confit notes. Then, as it opens, there are loamy aromas that lend more complexity. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin and a fine bead of acidity. There is a slightly powdery texture, feeling quite saline. White pepper and fennel notes become more conspicuous towards the finish. Just a classic Gazin from proprietor Nicolas de Bailliencourt and his team."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Gazin is lush, sensual and enveloping, with lovely palate presence and tons of pure class. Bright floral notes perk up the red berry fruit in a seductive, open-knit Pomerol that captures the best the vintage has to offer. In 2017 Gazin is quite giving today, but also has a good bit of freshness and aromatic nuance that should allow it to develop nicely for years to come. Tasted three times."*

**CHATEAU LA CABANNE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 33,60 Euro (44,80 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 La Cabanne gives up black cherries and black plums on the nose with wafts of anise, chocolate box and tilled earth. Medium-bodied, plushly textured and with plenty of density, it finishes pleasantly fruity."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Cabanne is a Pomerol cru that flies just under the radar. This latest release continues to prove that François Estager owns some serious terroir, located right next to Trotanoy in fact. It has a nicely detailed bouquet with scents of blackberry, pencil lead and undergrowth aromas. It is not as complex as the 2015 or 2016 but there is palpable focus and good vigor. The palate is medium-bodied with well-defined red berry fruit laced with brown spice and a discrete, almost cola-like tincture. This feels nimble, poised and for want of a better word, joyful. It might not be the most profound Pomerol that François Estager has ever made but I can see this drinking beautifully over the next decade."*
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"Kräftiges, fein opulentes Bouquet, Erdbeergelee, Moccajoghurt, Vanille, Minze. Samtener, mittelkräftiger Gaumen mit süsser Frucht, feinem Tannin, molliger Struktur, guter Aromatik, mittlerer, süsser Abgang."*
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Some nice juicy fruit with mineral and salt undertones. Medium body, silky tannins and a succulent finish. Shows balance and finesse for the vintage."*

**CHATEAU LA CROIX DU CASSE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 24,10 Euro (32,13 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Fifty percent of the vineyards for this wine were affected by frost this year. The 2017 La Croix du Casse, a blend of 94% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc, is medium garnet-purple in color with a lovely nose of wilted roses and violets with touches of spice box and Provence herbs over a core of red currants and blackberries plus a waft of fertile loam. The palate is medium-bodied, soft and plush with a racy acid line lifting the floral-accented fruit on the finish."*
- 88-91 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Modest damson plum and cherry fruit is laced with a mulled spice hint, picking up savory and incense notes on the finish. The savory edge lingers longest."*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Croix du Casse is soft, fruity and accessible, all of which make it a good choice for drinking now and over the near and medium term. Cedar, tobacco, mint and dried cherry are laced into the soft, pliant finish. Yields are down a punishing 50%."*
- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU LA CROIX SAINT GEORGES – Pomerol**

Basispreis 47,60 Euro (63,47 €/l)

- 94+ Punkte IZAK LITWAR: *"La Croix St. Georges from Jean-Philippe Janoueix was potent, fresh, meaty with ripe fruit and tannin, and displayed splendid acidity, structure and length. Clever winemaking. 91% Merlot + 9% Cabernet Franc."*
- 91-92 Punkte YVES BECK

**CHATEAU LE BON PASTEUR – Pomerol**

Basispreis 70,00 Euro (93,33 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Ripe and friendly in feel, with round, forward blackberry compote notes. Offers anise and ganache details, showing light brambly grip and good energy."*
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very impressive for the vintage with a solid core of focused fruit and refined tannins. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a pretty finish. Shows length."*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Bon Pasteur rocks up to the party with gregarious blueberry compote, blackberry pie and cassis notions followed by a floral entourage and charcuterie nuances. Medium to full-bodied with a firm, grainy backbone and just enough freshness, it gives a long, purely fruited finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Le Bon Pasteur is one of the few Chinese-owned properties in Pomerol since it was sold to Pan Sutong, though it should be noted that Dany and Michel Rolland continue to oversee the winemaking. It has a tightly wound, floral bouquet that demands more coaxing from the glass than recent vintages that I have tasted. The palate is medium-bodied with blackberry and boysenberry fruit. It feels supple in the mouth at first, but then quite firm tannins enter stage left towards the final third delivering satisfying freshness, if not quite the length of the best vintages."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Le Bon Pasteur is fabulous. Dense, powerful and explosive, with tons of resonance, the 2017 has a lot to offer. Layers of dark cherry, plum, lavender, spice and new oak built into the beautifully layered finish. This is a terrific vintage for Bon Pasteur. Tasted two times."*

**CHATEAU L' EGLISE CLINET – Pomerol**

Preis auf Anfrage

- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A nice core of gently steeped plum and boysenberry fruit is liberally infused with anise accents. A light bramble edge carries the finish. This has good underlying energy, with some fruit in reserve."*
- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"For me, this is one of the successes of the vintage in Pomerol, although not fully escaping the roadblocks of 2017. There is a real sense of precision and elegance here, with floral, violet aromatics and a note of liquorice, and it deals its power in a measured way, one hand at a time - it's a wine to sit with and enjoy. There was no frost at this estate. The Merlot was picked between 12-22 September, and the Cabernet Franc on 22 September. The 70% new oak is a touch present on the close of play, but those tannins are pliable and enjoyable, promising to cradle the fruit for the long haul. Drinking Window 2027 – 2038"*
- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This really rolls on the palate with fantastic fruit and tannins. Full-bodied, structured and layered. Long, long finish. Impressive all the way."*
- 96-98+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"A blend of 90% Merlot with 10% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 L'Eglise Clinet opens with crème de cassis, black forest cake and preserved plums notes with suggestions of underbrush, lilacs and star anise plus an invigorating spark of Bing cherries. Medium to full-bodied and built like a brick house with very firm, ripe tannins and very refreshing acidity supporting the tightly wound muscular fruit, it finishes with epic persistence and bags of energy. This will be extremely long lived!"*
- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 L'Eglise-Clinet is one of the most polished, sensual wines of the year. Bright, precise and yet full of flavor, the 2017 has a lot to offer. Cedar, licorice and rose petal are just some of the many nuances that add aromatic dimension. Deceptive in its mid-weight structure, the 2017 offers notable intensity and persistence. What a gorgeous wine it is. Harvest was about a week earlier than normal. Denis Durantou gave the various lots in the Grand Vin 15-18 days on the skins. The 70% new oak is impeccably balanced in several samples."*
- 95-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 L'Eglise-Clinet was picked between 12 and 22 September, the Cabernet Franc coming in on the last day. Nothing was touched by the frost. It is matured in 70% new oak. Denis Durantou did not specify the exact quantity produced, "Just enough for my friends" according to his spec sheet! The bouquet is very succinct, perhaps more open than either the 2015 or 2016 at this early stage, extraordinarily pure with blackberry, wild strawberry, smoke and truffle. It just gets better and better as it opens in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, linear and focused, very fresh with pointed acidity. This is full of tension and poise, a touch of graphite emerging towards the finish that lingers in the mouth with superb salinité at the end. It completes a triumvirate for Denis Durantou after the 2015 and 2016s."*

**CHATEAU MAZEYRES – Pomerol**

Basispreis 26,40 Euro (35,20 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright and fresh, featuring charming plum and anise notes gliding through on a silky structure. Long, with a floral hint on the finish. Pretty and pure."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Mazeyres has a very refined bouquet, nicely focused with lifted red fruit, hints of truffle and sous-bois. I like the stylishness of this Pomerol. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, well-judged acidity and seamlessly integrated oak. This is often one of the strongest performers from the western flank of the appellation and the 2017 is no different – a little gem from Alain Moueix."*

**CHATEAU NENIN – Pomerol**

Basispreis 66,60 Euro (88,80 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A creamy wine with a solid core of fruit and firm and silky tannins. Lots mineral and crushed-stone character. Full-bodied, rich and structured. Orange rind on the aftertaste. Less than 50% of the normal production. Solid finish."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Nénin contains more Cabernet Franc this year because of the frost damage. The grapes were picked from 12 to 29 September although the team did go back to inspect the second generation frosted vines two weeks later but the tannins were unsatisfactory and the fruit abandoned. This means that the overall production was just 15.5hl/ha, matured in 35% new oak with the alcohol at 13.50°. The nose is fairly uncomplicated compared to the last two vintages: red fruit, briary and a touch of desiccated orange peel. The palate is medium-bodied with soft tannin, moderate depth, gentle in the mouth but missing a little structure towards the airy finish. It is a decent, early-drinking Nénin in the making although it lags behind the previous two vintages."*

- 95 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Round, polished and fleshy in feel, with good underlying acidity that lets the cassis, plum sauce and raspberry fruit play out. Light anise and singed vanilla shadings show on the finish, with a little latent grip."*

- 90-93+ VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Nénin is terrific. Brilliant, focused aromatics and finely chiseled fruit give the wine vivacity and energy to burn. Pliant and succulent in the glass, with striking fruit purity, the 2017 Nénin has so much to offer. Because of the frost, the 2017 contains more Cabernet Franc in the Grand Vin than is typical, which gives the wine its very distinct red toned flavor profile and structural feel. Frost losses were much more severe (70%) in the plots dedicated to the second wine Fugue de Nénin, which was produced, but will not be sold en primeur. In 2017, Nénin is a winner."*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

### **CHATEAU PETIT VILLAGE – Pomerol**

Basispreis 69,60 Euro (92,80 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Petit Village was completely spared from the frosts in 2017. Composed of 71% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2017 Petit Village is deep garnet-purple in color and is a little reticent to begin, with slowly emerging notes of warm plums, blackberry pie and baked blueberries plus sparks of kirsch, licorice, camphor and chargrill. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a generous amount of mid-palate flesh and really ripe, plush tannins, finishing with loads of blue, black and red fruit layers."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is layered and very poised with plum and chocolate character. Full body and chewy tannins that are polished and focused. Very long and serious."*

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"An enjoyable wine from technical director Diana Berrouet Garcia. There was no frost here, and so they made a gorgeous, full and bright Petit Village with a good persistency of black cherry fruits and firm tannins. It was picked on 18-20 September, a little earlier than they perhaps wanted due to September rains, but the fruit was deftly handled. 50% new oak. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036"*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe tannins and smoky fruit are the dominant characters in this wine. The palate offers dense dark-fruit flavors, with freshness and acidity at the end. Drink the wine from 2024."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Petit-Village is a very pretty and promising mid-weight Pomerol. The high percentage of Cabernet Franc comes through in the wine's distinctly floral/savory profile that brings lift to the bright, red-toned fruit. Technical Director Diana Berrouet Garcia opted for shortish macerations of around 20 days because the skins were fragile and the wines extracted easily. The blend is 71% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, and 9% Cabernet Sauvignon."*

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Very fresh, with a bright floral-infused core of raspberry, cherry and cassis flavors. Silky but persistent tannins let this linger nicely. There's some sneaky depth here too."*

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Ungem. komplexe, vielversprechende Aromatik, superbe Dichte, Tannine der Extraklasse, Fülle und Länge, umwerfend gut."*

### **CHATEAU ROUGET – Pomerol**

Basispreis 42,40 Euro (56,53 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is really pretty with a whole berry character to it with berry, chocolate and wet earth character. Medium body, round tannins yet subtle and fine. Impressive."*

- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Dry tannins give this wine its structure and shape, with flavors of licorice and dark chocolate. Its black plum fruits will need to balance with this firmer structure. Drink from 2024."*

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Rouget is another rocking Pomerol, and this appellation delivers some of the sexiest, most textured wines in the vintage. Plums, blueberries, incense and spice notes all emerge from this medium to full-bodied, rounded, sexy beauty that has sweet tannin and an already approachable style. Drink it over the coming 10-12 years."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has depth and juiciness, making it an enjoyable, bright, if a little austere Pomerol. Tasted twice, and both times it showed well, with slightly backwards tannins that need time in the glass to unfurl. They use a touch of whole-cluster fermentation at Rouget, which may be adding to this early tightness, but there is a lovely freshness alongside a sense of juicy bramble fruits. A small section of the vineyard was affected by frost, meaning there is no second wine, Carillon de Rouget, this year. The rest of the grapes were brought in between 20-29 September, with harvesters going through each plot several times to pick the fruit when ripe. Drinking Window 2024 – 2035"*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Rouget is very deep purple-black in color with a nose of preserved plums, blueberry compote and mocha with suggestions of wood smoke and beef drippings. Medium-bodied, quite firm and chewy in the mouth, it has just enough black fruit preserves flavors and a grippy finish."*

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Rouget is gorgeous. Bright, aromatically lifted and pliant, with tremendous depth and intensity, the 2017 hits all the right notes. Bright red cherry, plum and pomegranate are pushed forward. In 2017, Rouget has an extra level of aromatic intensity and overall finesse that makes it compelling. Tasted three times."*

**CHATEAU SACRE COEUR – Pomerol**

Basispreis 27,30 Euro (36,40 €/l)

100 % Merlot

Von Jean-Philipp Moueix, dem Besitzer von Chateau Croix Mouton und Chateau La Confession

**CHATEAU TAILLEFER – Pomerol**

Basispreis 23,80 Euro (31,73 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Taillefer has a slightly closed nose, revealing crushed black plums, blackberries and licorice with touches of garrigue and tree bark. The palate is medium-bodied with a firm frame and good mid-palate weight, finishing long and savory."*

- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Spice and ripe fruit flavors gives this wine an opulent, full character. It is generous, with layers of black fruits, rich tannins and an open, juicy finish. Drink from 2023."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Stylish, offering a mix of cherry preserves and mulled damson plum flavors, laced with hints of anise, and a flash of cedar detail, though this stays fresh on the finish."*

- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Taillefer is a very pretty wine with lovely lifted aromatics, bright red fruit and terrific balance. I very much like the sense of energy and brightness that serve to balance the juiciness of the fruit. All the elements fall into place effortlessly. Tasted two times."*

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"The blend of this wine usually has a higher percentage of Cabernet Franc but the 12ha estate suffered around 60% loss to frost in 2017, giving a yield of 18hl/ha, so the blend is a little unusual this year. It has lovely fresh fruit aromatics, perky but not overly ripe, and good intensity on the palate with some vanilla-tinged oak notes. A touch of heat suggests the overall balance is not quite there, but it's an enjoyable early-to-medium drinker. Drinking Window 2023 – 2035"*

**CHATEAU TOUR MAILLET – Pomerol**

Basispreis 27,30 Euro (36,40 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Tour Maillet is deep garnet-purple in color and has open and expressive scents of black plums, black cherries and blueberries with touches of cloves, vanilla and cinnamon stick. The palate is medium to full-bodied with firm, velvety tannins and tons of juicy fruit, with a refreshing lift to the finish."*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Tour Maillet offers tightly knit blackberry and black plum notes on the nose, nicely focused but it needs to just loosen up during the élevage and develop more generosity. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, and pretty red fruit that are nicely rounded in texture and a soft landing on the finish. Just a lovely Pomerol, no more, no less."*

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Tour Maillet (Lagardere) should be an outstanding Pomerol. Revealing a deep, inky color as well as classic notes of ripe black cherries, scorched earth, and roasted herbs, this beauty hits the palate with medium-bodied richness, a ripe, rounded texture, loads of sweet fruit, and a good finish. Give bottles 2-3 years."*

- 91-92 JAMES SUCKLING: *"A linear and tight 2017 with plum and berry character. Medium body and compacted layers of fruit and tannins. Juicy. Nicely done for the vintage."*

**VIEUX CHATEAU CERTAN – Pomerol**

Preis auf Anfrage

- 96-98 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Composed of 81% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Vieux Château Certan gives up gorgeous black raspberries, crushed black currants and warm black berries on the nose with chocolate-covered cherries, violets and star anise suggestions plus black truffles and wood smoke. The palate is medium to full-bodied with wonderful concentration in the mid-palate and firm, very finely pixelated tannins, with seamless freshness and fantastic length."*

- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a dense and compact center palate with a solid and pointed intensity. Full body, firm and silky tannins and an energetic finish. Complete. Harmonious."*

- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Vieux Château Certan was picked in three passages through the vineyard, 12 and 13 September, 18 and 19 September and finally 25 September to 2 October. The yields are 37hl/ha with 14.2° alcohol and a 3.75 pH. It is the first vintage to contain Cabernet Sauvignon for several years. It has a very pure, Merlot-driven bouquet with black cherries, redcurrant and wild strawberry scents, just a hint of iris and incense in the background. The 70% new oak is nicely integrated here. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannin, a deep well of black and red fruit interwoven with allspice, truffle, white pepper and a little sage. This Vieux Château Certan manifests more complexity and profundity as it aerates, delivering genuine, spine-tingling mineralité on the persistent finish. It gains even more precision when I return to the property to re-taste it again. Tasted twice, ten days apart at the property."*

- 95-98 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Vieux Château Certan is a rapturously beautiful wine. Dark, sumptuous and seamless in the glass, the 2017 is going to tempt readers early. This is the first vintage that includes a bit of young vine Cabernet Sauvignon planted in 2012 to complement the old-vine Merlot and Franc that are the core of Vieux Certan. A wine of exceptional balance and purity, the 2017 dazzles from start to finish. There is an element of tension in the 2017 that is incredibly appealing. "We are back to Bordeaux," adds Alexandre Thienpont in reference to the personality of the year as compared to both 2016 and 2015. The blend is 81% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, aging in 70% new oak."*

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"Extremely bright, dark fruit aromas are joined by hints of gooseberry and redcurrant in the mouth, but a deeper, richer cassis comes through on the mid-palate. The high level of acidity emphasises a floral note, yet this has an austerity that is more pronounced than in recent vintages, which should settle in over time. This is a fairly concentrated vintage at VCC, more than at many properties, and was their fifth earliest harvest in the past 20 years, similar to 2011 in terms of dates,*

although this time it was in three stages, from 12 September to 2 October. This is different in profile to the 2016, with more Cabernet Sauvignon (planted in 2012). It's an elegant style with pure fruit; an extremely focussed and linear wine that's far from exuberant. No frost here, so a final yield of 37hl/ha. 3.75pH. IPT 73. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"

- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. Rich yet fresh, this is a beautifully balanced wine. Its tannins act as a support to the great fruit and juicy acidity. Ripe, classic and sophisticatedly rich, it will certainly age well and shouldn't be opened before 2025."

- 18,5 Punkte VINUM: "Raffinierte Aromatik von Blumen und Kräutern; besitzt große Rasse, aber auch perfekt abgestimmte Fülle, Klasse Tannin von Samt und Seide, sehr lang, elegant und umwerfend raffiniert."

## Saint Emilion

### CHATEAU ANGELUS – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 383,00 Euro (510,66 €/l)

- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "This is jazzed up a bit, with dark anise and black tea aromatics leading off, followed by juicy blackberry, boysenberry and bramble notes. Has some flashy spice on the finish and some expensive-feeling toast, but everything is in lockstep as this moves along."

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "A layered and fine-grained young Angelus with very focused and integrated tannins that give the young wine form and focus. Full body and a subtle and fascinating fruit character. Should turn out beautifully."

- 95-97 WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. Big tannins and powerful fruit go together in this finely perfumed wine. It has a smoky backdrop, with intense fruits and juicy acidity. It is so fruity and juicy now, though the tension behind the fruit suggests that it will mature quickly and then be at its peak for many years."

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 96 Punkte DECANTER: "Emmanuelle has been making wine here for 22 years now. The freshness of the Merlot in 2017 reminds her of 2001 - I would certainly agree, and maybe with a hint of 2014 too. It's a beautiful wine, voluptuous but elegant. These vines were not frosted, but the Cabernet Franc produced less than usual, and they also made an extremely careful selection overall, leading to a yield of 30hl/ha. The wine has great complexity, which is a standout character in 2017, with bilberries, charcoal and plush damson - the Angelus signature of power and glamour. There is good tannic density here and it will clearly merit long ageing. 85,000 bottles of Angelus produced, representing around 80% of total production. Matured in 100% new oak. Drinking Window 2027 – 2040"

- 17,5+ Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: "Lost around 20% to frost. 70% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc. Inky crimson. Redolent of classy and spicy oak but the fruit fragrance is there too, waiting to emerge after the chocolate dies back. A fine note of graphite and Cabernet Franc leafy (but fully ripe) freshness. Spicy and fresh on the palate. Rich and finely textured, with the oak giving way to the fruit on the palate. Very good balance even at this early stage. Savoury dark-chocolate, clean finish."

- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "A blend of 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc, the deep purple-black colored 2017 Angélus is a little closed to begin, opening out beautifully to notes of baked plums, fresh blackberries and chocolate-covered cherries with hints of mocha, bay leaves, beef drippings and wood smoke plus a touch of roses. Medium to full-bodied with a great density of mid-palate fruit and firm, fine-grained tannins, it finishes long and earthy with a compelling lift."

- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "The 2017 Angélus has a crisp, direct and very pure bouquet that is almost Burgundy-like in style. Crushed blackberry, hints of cassis, just a suggestion of bell pepper emanating from the Cabernet Franc and a faint estuarine scent all come through although unusually for this Saint-Émilion, they take three or four minutes to coalesce. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, but quite firm in the mouth. There is a marine-influence to this Saint-Émilion with a chalky, lightly spiced and, relative to 2015 and 2016, quite conservative and linear style. It feels very saline on the finish, perhaps more than I have encountered in recent years. It foregoes the roundness of recent vintages, perchance an Angélus that will be best shown on the dinner table instead of on its own. That's not a bad thing. Excellent."

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "The 2017 Angélus is impeccable. Bright and energetic, with terrific lift from the 30% Cabernet Franc, Angélus is super-expressive today. There is lovely depth and density to the fruit, even if the finish narrows just a touch. In 2017 Angélus is less powerful than it typically is, with less overt oak influence. Whether or not that is a reflection of the vintage alone, or indicative of a slight evolution in style is a question that can only be answered in the future. In the meantime, there is plenty to like about the 2017. The Merlot saw 3-4 weeks on the skins, while the Cabernet was macerated about a week longer. Aging is in 100% new French oak, with slightly lower toast levels than in the past. Production will be about 20% less than normal because of frost damage."

- 18 Punkte VINUM: "Komplexe Aromatik, voller Ansatz, große Tiefe, Klasse Tannin, exquisite Frische und Fruchtigkeit, große Spannung und Länge; hervorragend gemacht."

### CHATEAU ANGELUS – LE CARILLON – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 108,20 Euro (144,27 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "Fascinating that this second wine of L'Angelus is 90% merlot and is so tight and structured. Full-bodied, tight and layered with linear tannins and freshness. Focused and serious."

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. This wine has great fruit and spice as well as intense acidity. It is soft, ripe and juicy on the palate, with lively acidity and a touch of tannins at the end, yielding a crunchy, fresh and fruity finish. It will certainly age well, but will also be hard to resist in its youth."

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: "*Frost at Angelus affected around 10% of blocks for the grand vin, but Carillon (which has been from a different vineyard since 1996, together with a few young vines of Angélu blocks) was more affected and so needed a lot of selection. No second generation fruit was used, meaning they will only produce 25,000 bottles of the 2017, compared to the usual 50,000 bottles. Picking began on 13 September, followed by low temperature vinification, keeping about one-third in tanks and two-thirds in barrels (approximately 50% new oak). This has a clear, fruit-driven feel, with juicy, well-balanced blackberry and blackcurrants, and it's enjoyably frank in style for the vintage. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036*"
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*The 2017 Le Carillon d'Angélu is pretty, succulent and forward, all qualities that are easy to appreciate today. In the 2017, the Carillon is 90% Merlot, which is one of the consequences of the April frost that wiped out 50% of the production across the three sets of vineyards that inform this wine. I would prefer to drink the 2017 sooner rather than later, while the fruit is bold and luscious.*"

**CHATEAU BALESTARD LA TONNELLE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 27,50 Euro (36,67 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Balestard de Tonnelle has an impressive bouquet: quite intense but not over-powering with scents of blackberry, boysenberry and a touch of iodine all well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, nicely integrated oak with a svelte finish that is really quite classy. You know, this is the best Balestard de Tonnelle that I have tasted in recent years. Excellent.*"
- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*This is at once a subtle yet structured wine with really plush yet lithe tannins, a medium body, lots of dark fruit and a chewy finish.*"
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Balestard la Tonnelle gives up crushed cherries, wild blueberries and violets on the nose with chocolate box and anise nuances. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a great core of pure, spice-accented black fruits, supported by grainy tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing long.*"
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: "*Good, rich aromatics are evident on the nose, showing notes of grilled oak and cloves with damson underneath. They have done a good job here, producing a broad-shouldered wine. It's a little oak-led, but has personality and well-placed fruits, and they have delivered a wine with their own signature in a vintage where that was not the easiest of things to do. Drinking Window 2026 – 2038*"
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 93-94 Punkte VERT DE VIN
- 91-93 Punkte WEINWISSER

**CHATEAU BARDE HAUT – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 34,70 Euro (46,27 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*Barde-Haut didn't see any frost this year due to the altitude of the vineyards. Composed of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Barde-Haut gives notions of baked blackberries, blueberry compote and Black Forest cake with touches of potpourri, dusty soil and cast iron pan. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of grainy tannins and great freshness, finishing long and minerally.*"
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "*Lovely plum, cassis and boysenberry fruit flavors glide through here, with polished toast and a bright red licorice accent on the finish. Nice energy.*"
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*A rich, unctuous wine, the 2017 Barde-Haut is endowed with magnificent concentration and richness. Inky black fruit, chocolate, menthol, licorice and spice infuse this spectacularly rich, voluptuous Saint-Émilion. The 2017 saw 4-5 days on cold soak about four weeks on the skins, with no SO2 during fermentation. Most of the wine is aging in 300L barrels, which is a bit larger than the norm in Bordeaux.*"
- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): "*Kräftiges, fein florales, süßes Bouquet, Damassinepflaumen, Kirschen, fein Mocca, Tabak. Fruchtiger, samtener, fein opulenter Gaumen mit kräftiger, süßere Frucht, feinem Tannin, cremiger Struktur, kräftiger Aromatik, langer, fein üppiger Abgang. Kann noch zulegen.*"
- 92-94 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "*The deep, inky-colored 2017 Barde-Haut is a seriously good 2017 from H  l  ne Garcin-L  v  que that offers tons of kirsch, ripe black cherries, and spice aromas and flavors in a rounded, silky, sexy style. It has wonderful purity of fruit, no hard edges, and a great finish. I suspect it will be reasonably approachable on release yet capable of lasting for 10-15 years. The blend is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc which will spend 18 months in 80% new French oak.*"

**CHATEAU BEAU SEJOUR BECOT – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 46,60 Euro (75,47 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Beau-S  jour B  cot is less immediate on the nose compared to the 2015 and 2016. This takes a little time to unfurl, eventually offering a mixture of red and black fruit, crushed rose petals and just a touch of cassis. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, fine structure and freshness. It is not a powerful Beau-S  jour-B  cot but is imbued with great freshness and whilst it does not possess the structure or depth as the last couple of vintages, I appreciate the mineral aftertaste here.*"
- 91-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*The 2017 Beau-S  jour-B  cot is dark, dense and inviting, with striking textural richness and fabulous depth. Succulent black cherry, chocolate, new leather, spice and menthol. All the elements fall into place in a soft, beautifully resonant Saint-  milion from the B  cot family.*"
- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*Beautiful and vivid dark fruits here with polished yet intense tannins and fruit balance. Juicy on the finish. Shows length and refinement already.*"
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "*Shows a lovely, engaging feel, offering succulent blackberry and cherry compote notes. Delightfully pure, with light echoes of bramble, chalk and anise fluttering through the finish. Silky and refined, this has length to burn.*"

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The tentative blend of the 2017 Beau-Sejour Becot is 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Very deep garnet-purple colored, it opens with an earthy nose of mossy bark, truffles and fertile loam with a core of baked plums, crushed blackberries and black raspberries. The palate is medium-bodied, refreshing and delicately played with energetic fruit and plush tannins, finishing earthy."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"Right on the limestone plateau, this has a lovely delivery of extremely ripe black fruits dotted through with minerality and little pulses of electricity. Extremely successful, this will age well thanks to elongated tannins that are chalky in all the right places. Again, we have this slight austerity on the finish, a reminder than 2016 is not the right bank party we saw in 2015, but this is excellent with such a beautiful balance. Drinking Window 2027 – 2050"*
- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU BELLEFONT BELCIER – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 46,40 Euro (61,87 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Bellefont Belcier is deep garnet-purple colored and scented of baked plums and dried mulberries with touches of fragrant earth and underbrush. Medium-bodied, soft and plush, it has plenty of fruit and a gorgeous texture, finishing long. The tentative blend is 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon."*
- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe red fruits give this wine a luscious character balanced by firm tannins. The dry core is firmly dominant at this stage although there is plenty of fruit for the future. Drink from 2024."*
- 90-92 VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Bellefont-Belcier, which was purchased by Peter Kwok last year (see Haut-Brisson, Tour St. Christophe, La Patache etc), was fermented without SO2. It has an extremely rich, decadent bouquet that seems to be trying too hard to make an impression instead of reflecting its propitious terroir. The palate is almost viscous on the entry, extremely concentrated and opulent. One bottle tasted just too ostentatious although another indicated that there is some composure, linearity and tension that prompted a more optimistic view and a higher banded score."*
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has impact and weight, and a good overall structure. It hasn't reached the heights of recent years, being more austere on this occasion, but is still extremely accomplished. There's an elegance to the carefully extracted, bright fruit. Drinking Window 2026 – 2038"*
- 92-95 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Coming from a 13.5-hectare vineyard sitting on the plateau and south-facing hillside of the Cote Pavie (right beside Larcis-Ducasse), the 2017 Bellefont-Belcier is a screaming success in the vintage. Loaded with beautiful dark fruits, violets, and salty, rocky minerality, this beauty hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, sensational purity of fruit, and perfect balance. The tentative blend is 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, and it hit a solid 14.6% natural alcohol. It's certainly worth your time and money. Tasted three times."*
- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very focused and compacted, showcasing extremely polished and firm tannins. Medium-to full-bodied and finely glossy and precise. Dark fruits, wet earth and an intense finish. Excellent length."*

**CHATEAU BERLIQUET – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 41,60 Euro (55,47 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Some berry and spice character and a salty undertone. Medium body and a fresh finish. Firm and silky tannins. Shows some drive at the end. This is the first year from the owners of Canon."*
- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright, with floral and tea nuances out front, followed by blood orange and damson plum fruit. Offers a sleek, mineral-edged finish."*
- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Berliquet, which is matured in new oak, has quite a pure black cherry and iodine bouquet. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, quite harmonious if just missing a little complexity towards the finish. This Saint-Émilion is more about the silky texture that I hope will be in situ after bottling."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEFF LEVE

**CHATEAU CANON – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 91,60 Euro (122,13 €/l)

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very focused and fresh with limestone and crushed-stone character. Medium to full body, integrated tannins and a salty finish. Shows lots of minerality already. Umami licorice undertones."*
- 98 Punkte TERRE ES VINS
- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The deep purple-black colored 2017 Canon offers-up intense notes of crushed blackberries, black cherries and warm cassis with touches of fertile loam, yeast extract, beef drippings and iron ore plus a waft of garrigue. Medium to full-bodied with great freshness and firm, rounded tannins, it's very earthy in the mouth, finishing long and mineral-laced. A very serious wine, it is also fun, bright and vivacious and should age impressively."*
- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"Another successful year for Canon; not as voluptuous as in 2016 or 2015, but it has a wonderful salinity and a crisp, fresh curl to the fruit. They aim for crystalline flavours, vibrant fruit and a sense of forward motion, and for me it has that again this year. The flavours of blueberries, blackberries and soft, smoky almonds are drawn out through the palate, and by the time it has finished you are ready to go again. It has an austerity that is overridden by the juice, not quite overriding the vintage, but it's a delicious wine that again showcases the beauty of limestone. 50% new oak. Thomas Duclot is consultant here, and it really is a great year for the estates that he works with. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040"*
- 96 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Canon was picked 4 to 21 September and 22 to 27 September for the Merlot and Cabernet Franc at 42hl/ha and matured in 56% new oak. There is 14.0° alcohol this year and the pH comes in at 3.66. This takes a little time to open, eventually revealing blackberry, briary, crushed stone and light iris scents. The palate is*

*medium-bodied with very fine tannins and good backbone. Strangely, it reminds me a little of modern-day Figeac, that Cabernet component smaller here but very expressive with touches of graphite and flint towards the linear but beguilingly fresh finish. I like the manner in which the limestone shines through the wine here, something noticeable in recent vintages. Whilst not the sensational 2015 or 2016, it is a damn fine Saint-Émilion that will settle at the top of my banded score."*

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"A rich, explosive wine, the 2017 Canon exudes class from the very first taste. Huge aromatics resonate through to the palate, where the wine is deep, fleshy and beautifully layered. Effortless and gracious, Canon is a wine of real pedigree. I don't think the 2017 will reach the dizzying heights of the 2015 or 2016, but it will be interesting to see how close it gets."*
- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Rich and densely concentrated, this wine has a generous character. It is not hugely structured, but does have great black fruits and a warm, rounded character, so it will develop relatively quickly. Drink from 2022."*
- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A very pretty, slightly high-pitched version, featuring sleek cherry, cassis and damson plum fruit racing through, picking up light savory and mineral notes. The minerality blooms through the finish, with a floral gilding adding a sparkly effect on the long, unencumbered finish."*
- 19 Punkte VINUM: *"Gehört nicht nur zu den größten Weinen dieses Jahres, sondern auch zu den größten der je verkosteten Canon: von absoluter Eleganz, sehr lang, klasse Tannin größter Finesse, Mineralität, Terroirausdruck, himmlische aromatische Anlagen. Ein Hit."*

**CHATEAU CANON LA GAFFELIERE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 73,70 Euro (98,27 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Charming cassis and blackberry puree flavors glide along the polished structure, with light rooibos tea and anise accents chiming in. Offers a bright, polished finish."*
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is really excellent for the vintage with wonderful density of fruit in terms of plum liqueur and creme de cassis. The palate's plush but velvety with round tannins and a long finish. Should drink fabulously when young. So generous but silky and dialed-in."*
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"A lovely warm, enveloping wine with clear structure, softly melting tannins and a real welcoming feel. I don't feel that the oak lets the fruit sing as much it might, but this is still enjoyable. Drink now and over next 15 years. Drinking Window 2018 – 2033"*
- 91-93+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Composed of 60% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2017 Canon la Gaffeliere contains a large part of second-generation fruit because 65% of the crop was affected by frost. Deep garnet-purple in color, it has pronounced crème de cassis, blueberry pie, red currants and red plums notes with touches of Chinese five spice, fragrant earth, tapenade and tobacco. The palate is medium-bodied with nice firm tannins giving a sturdy frame along with plenty of freshness supporting great mid-palate density, finishing long and earthy."*
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Canon La Gaffelière is superb. Compelling in its aromatics and overall balance, the 2017 has so much to offer. All the elements simply fall into place. As is the case with all of Stephan von Neipperg's wines, the 2017 is wonderfully fresh and nuanced, with less muscle than in the past and noticeably more finesse. Bright floral and mocha notes add lift to the dark red stone fruits. What a gorgeous wine this is. Tasted two times."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU CAP DE MOURLIN** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 25,90 Euro (34,53 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is already shaping up to be a very well-made wine with ripe yet structured tannins, refreshing acidity, lots of plum and dark-cherry flavors and a chewy, rather long finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Cap de Moulin, which I compared to the Balestard de Tonnelles since they share the same owner (Vignobles Capdemoulin), did not convey the same definition on the nose as its "sibling" and felt rather over-egged by comparison. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, fine tannin, quite dense towards the finish but missing the tension and complexity of the top tier wines in Saint-Émilion. I prefer the Balestard in 2017."*
- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU CAP SAINT GEORGE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 17,50 Euro (23,33 €/l)

Von Jean-Philippe Moueix, dem Besitzer von Chateau La Confession und Chateau Croix Mouton

**CHATEAU CHEVAL BLANC** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 599,00 Euro (798,67 €/l)

- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is tight and very tannic with a linear and steely backbone of texture. Full-bodied, compacted and complete. Muscular and flexing it but polished and toned. Wow. There is 6% cabernet sauvignon in the blend, which may be giving this even more strength. Very, very long. Very Left Bank in terms of the power and depth."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe and juicy with immense fruitiness, the black currant flavors and solid tannins are an indication of the long future ahead of this wine. Big in structure, it has a richly perfumed character as well as great fruit. It's a great wine that's ready to age for many years."*
- 98+ Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"A sense of forward motion here makes you smile - a reaction that's missing in many wines this year. The tannins push their way right through the palate, but cradle the cassis and bilberry fruit rather than smother it, helped by the*

fact that floral and smoky aromatics rise up. There's good persistency and you get that little kick and dance of minerality. The precision engineering is clear, but the overall feeling is simply of cohesion and enjoyment. 3.65ph. 100% new oak, but without a trace even now at this early stage. Approximately 60% of the wine this year came from the gravelly plots which were less affected by the frost, which accounts for a slightly higher level of Cabernet Sauvignon than usual. They used perhaps 1% of secondary budding in this blend (five weeks behind schedule at bud-break and then around 15 days by harvest) and kept picking from 15 September to 11 October - an extremely long schedule compared to most estates in 2017. With around 30% loss to frost, there will be 50,000 bottles of Cheval in 2017, compared to 116,000 in 2016. 21hl/ha yield this year, 75% destined for the grand vin. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"

- 93-95 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "The 2017 Cheval Blanc is composed of 56% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 14% Cabernet Sauvignon—an unusually high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon for this wine. Deep garnet-purple colored, it opens slowly to reveal a gorgeous lilacs, roses, licorice and black truffles nose over a compelling core of cassis, warm plums, wild blueberries and cigar box plus a waft of wood smoke. Medium to full-bodied, firm and earthy in character on the palate, it packs in tightly wound fruits and mineral accents, culminating in a long, perfumed finish. 50,000 bottles are to be produced."

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "The 2017 Cheval Blanc comes from 97% first generation grapes and 3% second generation from two-thirds of the vineyard, using a sorting table to select the ripest berries that were matured separately in small vats. The rejected second generation were sold off in bulk and not blended into the deuxième vin. There is a high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon and comparatively lower percentage of Cabernet Franc due to the frost damage. So this is a more Left Bank Cheval Blanc using more the gravel soils than clay since the latter are colder. It has a tightly wound, almost Saint Estèphe-inspired bouquet, with fresh blackberry, cedar, wet clay and light iris-like aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, masculine in style, less corpulent than the 2015 or 2016, stricter and more linear, a "cool" Cheval Blanc that eschews the florality of previous vintages with a saline, marine-tinged finish. This is a cerebral Cheval Blanc, not the greatest in recent years, but one of the most interesting to sit and think about (and then drink of course!)"

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "The 2017 Cheval Blanc bristles with tension. Because of severe frost damage, in 2017, the Grand Vin includes a high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon (14%), from gravelly soils, which gives the wine very unusual flavor and structure profile. Vibrant and pulsing with a real sense of direction, the 2017 is going to need a number of years to be at its very best. Even so, it is an utterly fascinating wine. The blend is 56% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 14% Cabernet Sauvignon, aging in 100% new oak."

- 18 Punkte VINUM: "Wir mögen die betörend komplexe Aromatik von Kräutern und Blumen, die raffinierte, bereits jetzt elegante, schlanke, aber auch rassige, verblüffend dichte Art, mit beachtlichem, aber sehr feinkörnigem Tannin, die besondere Länge; besitzt Charme und Charakter."

#### **CHATEAU CLOS DE L'ORATOIRE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 33,60 Euro (44,80 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "A juicy and minerally red with a medium to full body, firm tannins and a savory finish. Nicely crafted and integrated. Soft hand in winemaking."

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "Juicy, with good energy to the mix of damson plum, cherry and raspberry fruit, flecked with mineral and savory notes. Shows crunchy acidity on the finish."

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "The 2017 Clos de l'Oratoire is an incredibly elegant, medium-bodied, lively effort that has a sappy, tight, energetic profile. Strawberries, blueberries, flowers, and spicy notes as well as a distinct limestone-like minerality all emerge from the glass, and while it's not a heavyweight, it's pure, long, and balanced."

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "The 2017 Clos de l'Oratoire is composed of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. Note there is no Cabernet Sauvignon this year, as the low part of this vineyard was damaged by the spring frosts, affecting in total about 70% of the production this year. Therefore, this vintage contains a large proportion of second-generation crop. It has a nose of baked cherries, plum preserves and spice cake with wafts of black pepper and tapenade. The palate is medium-bodied and elegantly fruited with great freshness and well-played chewy tannins, finishing long and earthy."

- 91-93 Punkte JEFF LEVE

#### **CHATEAU DE FERRAND – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 26,60 Euro (35,47 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "The 2017 de Ferrand is deep garnet-purple and scented of blueberry compote and black berry pie with hints of licorice, violets and mocha. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of chewy tannins and plenty of black and blue fruit layers on the long finish."

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: "Barrel Sample. This is ripe, full-bodied and concentrated. Dusty tannins, bold black fruits and a rich structure give it both power and long-term potential. Drink this spicy wine from 2023."

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "Quite fresh, offering a streak of mint amid the sleek plum and cherry preserve flavors. Shows polished toast on the finish, with an echo of red licorice."

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: "Extremely spicy, this is loaded with cassis and black pepper on the attack, until the velvety tannins, cinnamon swirl and high alcohol kick in. It's the first vintage with Gonzague de Lambert heading up the property, and the estate is currently undergoing a programme of replanting that will eventually see more Cabernet Franc in the vineyard, replacing some Cabernet Sauvignon that was planted on clay-limestone soils. There was no frost impact here in 2017, and harvest was between 25 September and 5 October, yielding 38hl/ha. Owned by Philippe and Pauline Chandon-Moët. Drinking Window 2023 – 2035"

- 89-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "Based on 81% Merlot and 19% Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Château De Ferrand is a plump, ripe, seductive 2017 that has ample black cherry fruit, nicely integrated sweet oak, medium to full body, and a rounded, charming

*style on the palate. It's showing plenty of oak at the moment, but I love its density and depth, and it certainly has potential. Tasted twice."*

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with blackberries, dark chocolate and some lemon and mineral undertones. Medium body, fine tannins and a fresh finish."*

- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU DE PRESSAC – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 26,20 Euro (34,93 €/l)

- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 de Pressac is terrific. Mocha, raspberry jam, mint and dried flowers give the 2017 its distinctive aromatic signatures. In 2017, Pressac is a bit more slender than it typically is. Nevertheless, Pressac remains one of the most under the radar wines in all of Bordeaux. Savvy consumers won't want to miss it. The blend is 74.5% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Merlot and 1.5% Carmenera, with the aromatic brightness of the Cabernets very much in evidence. Tasted three times."*

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This succeeds within the framework of the vintage, showing firm, brambly black fruits and a perky freshness that manages to feel lively rather than austere - no mean feat with Carménère, Malbec and Cabernet Franc in the blend. It's in fact a little less broad-shouldered than it has been in recent years, although it doesn't have as much punch as 2015 or 2016. 50% new oak. There was no frost here, but September rains meant picking took place just a little earlier than ideal. Yield 33hl/ha. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*

- 18 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(74% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Malbec, 2% Carménère) Frisches, elegantes, seidenes Bouquet, Erdbeeren, Johannisbeergelee, Minze, Lakritze, Graphit. Dichter, samtener, fruchtiger Gaumen mit kräftiger Frucht, viel feinem Tannin, kräftiger, vielfältiger Aromatik, dichter Struktur, langer, aromatischer, samtener Abgang."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Serious wine here with a solid concentration of fruit and firm and silky tannins. Long finish. Well done for the vintage."*

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Absolut umwerfende Nase von Blumen und Kräutern, vom großer Dichte und Rasse, erstklassiges, genau richtiges, saftiges, mundfüllendes, gleichsam knisterndes Tannin sowie große Spannung und Länge; ein absoluter Ausnahmewein, in diesem Jahr und einer der Best Buys des Jahres."*

**CHATEAU FAUGERES – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 36,20 Euro (48,27 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A solid and layered red with blackberries, wet earth and spices. Cloves. Medium to full body, ripe tannins and a juicy finish."*

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Solid plum and boysenberry compote flavors form the core. Licorice snap and fruitcake notes fill in the background. Lively acidity pulls all the elements together."*

- 90-92+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The current blend is 85% Merlot, with smaller portions of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Faugeres is a little shy to begin, revealing crushed black cherries, mulberries and red currants with coaxing plus hints of lavender, bay leaves and tilled soil. Medium-bodied with a firm frame of grainy tannins and just enough freshness, it delivers oodles of black fruit and a refreshing lift to the finish."*

- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe and juicy, this wine is going to develop quickly. It has plenty of attractive fruitiness and is lightly spiced, with a crisp, fruity aftertaste. Drink from 2022."*

- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU FIGEAC – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 166,60 Euro (222,13 €/l)

- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"The aromatics here are highly appealing, the well-weighted cassis fruit with touches of woodsmoke scents reflecting the clean black fruits on the attack, delivered with a sense of precision. The fruit is a little below the exceptional quality of the last few years, but 2015 and 2016 were just such sensational wines here, and this was a far trickier vintage. The austerity needs time to soften, opening up in the glass but lacking the floral signature of the estate, perhaps due to low Cabernet Franc levels - Figeac lost 55% of the crop to frost, hitting the Cabernet Franc particularly hard, which is why this vintage has the lowest Cabernet Franc on record at the estate. They have done an excellent job of not over-extracting, and it has a gentle depth of bramble fruit, menthol and eucalyptus that unrolls with some minerality. The last plots came in on 3 October, but they often went through the same plot several times to wait for full ripeness, and only around 10% of second generation fruit made it into the final wine. 50% of overall production will make Figeac in 2017, equating to perhaps 48,000 bottles. Yield 22hl/ha. This is an excellent wine, but lacks a little of the Figeac signature that has been so brilliantly developed over the past few years. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*

- 95 Punkte JEAN-MARC QUARIN

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is a dense and layered red with blackberries, blueberries and hints of hazelnuts. Full-bodied, very tight and focused. Impressive young tannins. Velvety texture. Very pretty to taste. Juicy and delicious. 43% merlot, 47% cabernet sauvignon and 10% cabernet franc. Less franc than normal due to the frost."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright and fresh, offering lovely cassis and black cherry notes sitting atop a sleek iron spine. Floral and savory details run throughout. Shows a refined structure. Sneakily long, with persistent fruit."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Figeac was picked from 7 September to 3 October at 22hl/ha (average across frosted and non-frosted parcels) with 13.5° alcohol. It has a deep purple hue. The bouquet is very well defined,*

*quite strict at first with well-behaved blackberry, raspberry, pressed rose petals and just a touch of violet. The palate is medium-bodied with a fine backbone, fresh in the mouth with a sense of energy, quite precise and linear with a pinch of spice towards the finish, a little graphite lingering on the aftertaste. This is unapologetically classic in style and whilst it might be overshadowed by the sensational 2015 and 2016 Figeac, this is an impressive follow-up to that might pair that has really put Figeac back on the map."*

- 95-97 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Ein besonders feingliedriger, eleganter Figeac, der nicht durch Fülle glänzt, sondern durch sein ungemein raffiniertes Tannin, seine Frische und Bekömmlichkeit, seine Liebenswürdigkeit."*

- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Figeac is magnificent. Beautifully layered and exquisite in the glass, the 2017 possesses remarkable balance and harmony from the very first taste. An utterly beguiling, captivating wine, the 2017 simply has it all. Bright, red-toned fruit, mint, spice, lavender and rose petal overtones flesh out in the glass, but above all else, Figeac is a wine of total harmony. The Grand Vin includes 10% second generation fruit. Even so, production is down around 50%."*

- 19 Punkte WEINWISSE

- 94-96 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Figeac is composed of 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. Very deep garnet-purple in color, the nose sings of Cabernet Sauvignon—bright crushed black currants, blackberries and wild blueberries with wafts of lilacs, pencil shavings, tobacco, tilled earth plus a hint of bay leaves. The medium-bodied mouth is fine, elegant, minerally and incredibly vivacious with tons of energy. Bright and refreshing with firm, grainy tannins and a provocative hint of chew, it finishes with great length. This should age wonderfully. 100% new oak was used for this sample and it is very well-integrated."*

#### **CHATEAU FLEUR CARDINALE Magnum 1,5 l – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 80,30 Euro (107,70 €/l)

-91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A fresh and bright red with plum and currant character. Medium-bodied, tight and focused. On it. Only 1,000 mags made."*

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This has a toasty profile, featuring ganache and warm tobacco notes surrounding a core of lightly steeped plum and blackberry fruit. Shows good flesh and depth, with a graphite accent buried through the finish. A very solid version of the style."*

#### **CHATEAU FOMBRAUGE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 23,40 Euro (31,20 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Offers nice flesh, with a mix of black currant and plum fruit inlaid with subtle black tea, graphite and anise notes. Reveals a tobacco edge on the finish. Well done."*

- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is immense, dense in powerful, solid tannins and dark, black fruits. It has great concentration, a dusty texture and final notes of chocolate, black plum and spice. Drink from 2024."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A tight and elegant red with very fine tannins, a medium body and a fresh finish. Shows tension and freshness. Solid for the region."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"Magrez has done a good job in 2017 pretty much across the board - these are wines that have the natural austerity of the vintage, but with clever use of oak that rounds out the fruit that can otherwise appear a little thin. There is power here, no doubt, but the finish is shorter than in the past two vintages. A dash of Cabernet Sauvignon finishes off the blend. At 58ha, this is one of the biggest St-Émilion estates. Drinking Window 2025 – 2037"*

#### **CHATEAU FONROQUE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 30,40 Euro (40,53 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This biodynamic estate has produced a rich, dense and generous wine, with solid yet fine tannins and powerful, pure black-fruit flavors. Drink from 2024."*

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and fruity with chocolate and dark-berry character. Medium-to full-bodied and layered. Very pretty. Better than 2016."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Subtle, with alluring tobacco and charcoal hints amid the core of gently steeped plum and black currant fruit. Reveals a light mineral hint on the finish. Shows a pretty tug of earth throughout."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Fonroque has a perfumed bouquet with redcurrant and crushed strawberry fruit, a touch of vanilla and a faint touch of cedar and dark chocolate. It opens nicely with aeration but never gets carried away (as Alain Moueix's wines tend not to!) The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, fresh and tender in the mouth with quite a long, silky finish. Delightful!"*

- 18 Punkte VINUM: *"Umwerfende, komplexe Aromatik von Kräutern und Gewürzen; voller Ansatz, dichter, saftiger Bau, herrlich feinkörniges Tannin und große, große Länge; einmal mehr hervorragender und voller Charakter. Gehört auch indiesem Jahr zu den absoluten Hits."*

#### **CHATEAU GRAND MAYNE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 34,90 Euro (46,53 €/l)

- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Grand Mayne has quite a powerful, voluminous bouquet with red berry fruit, smoke and truffle aromas, not quite delivering the same level of delineation as the previous vintage but still nicely focused. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannin, clean and precise with a fine bead of acidity. It is a lighter style of Grand Mayne compared to the wines of ten years ago, more nimble on its feet. The finish is lively, uncomplicated and*

*quite mineral-driven, completing what is a fine follow-up to the 2016, though this will drink earlier."*

- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"An exuberant, rich wine, the 2017 Grand Mayne is deep, pliant and creamy. Cedar, smoke, licorice, tobacco and grilled herbs give the 2017 striking aromatic layers to play off the luscious fruit. This is a decidedly exotic, sumptuous style, but it all works well, even if the new oak and torrefaction flavor are a bit dominant today. Hopefully aging can take care of some of that. There is quite a bit of potential here, that much is evident. Louis Mitjavile consults. Tasted two times."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Well-focused, with bright raspberry, plum and red licorice notes racing along, set against a backdrop of brambly structure."*

- 89-91+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Grand Mayne is deep garnet-purple in color and offers up notions of cassis, red currant jelly and plum preserves with hints of cigar box and incense. Medium to full-bodied, it has a solid backbone of firm, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and spicy."*

**CHATEAU HAUT BRISSON** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 24,90 Euro (33,20 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The tentative blend of the 2017 Haut Brisson is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. Very deep purple-black in color, it has a decadent nose of crème de cassis, baked blackberries and black forest cake with hints of licorice, tapenade and roses. The palate is big, rich, full-bodied and full-on ripe with tons of black fruit preserves, spice and savory layers supported by plush tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long."*

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Haut-Brisson has a very concentrated bouquet with liquorice and aniseed tinged red fruit, quite high-toned and more floral than the Tour Saint-Christophe, albeit not delivering quite the same degree of delineation. The palate is sweet and powerful on the entry, dense and grippy tannin with layers of black fruit, although I would have liked to see more freshness and poise towards the finish."*

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"One of the more sexy and voluptuous wines in the vintage, the 2017 Château Haut-Brisson comes from Hong Kong-based financier Peter Kwok, who also owns Tour Saint-Christophe and spares no expense when it comes to quality. The vineyard is located on the limestone plateau of St. Etienne-de-Lisse. The 2017 is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc that will see 18 months in 35% new French oak. This deep, inky-colored effort reveals beautifully pure blue fruits and hints of strawberries, spice, and loads of floral notes. Rounded, sexy, and impressively textured, give bottles a few years and enjoy over the following decade or more."*

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows a tightness and firmness that is unique for this estate with dark-berry and white-pepper character. Full-bodied, compacted and polished. Very long and polished. This came from only the vineyards on top of St.-Emilion. 50% of normal production."*

**CHATEAU LA CONFESSION** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 29,00 Euro (38,67 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Layered and flavorful with a medium to full body, velvety tannins and a long and intense finish."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 La Confession is medium to deep garnet-purple in color with a nose of crushed black plums and mulberries with touches of baking spices and mocha. Medium to full-bodied with great concentration and firm, rounded tannins, it has just enough freshness and a long spicy finish."*

**CHATEAU LA DOMINIQUE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 55,40 Euro (73,87 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows a solid core of fruit with lots of salt and meat character. Full to medium body and a fresh finish."*

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright, with a crunchy feel. Savory and mineral notes are prominent, along with sleek cassis and damson plum fruit. Not big, but the finish is racy and very pure."*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is initially closed, only allowing the fruit to show more strongly as it develops in the glass. However, there is fruit here along with some firm tannins. The aftertaste is juicy and fruity."*

- 18 Punkte WEINWISSENER

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Coming from the northwest part of Saint-Emilion, next to Cheval Blanc, the 2017 Château La Dominique is a beautiful, nicely concentrated, complex 2017 that should easily be an outstanding wine. A blend of 70% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon, brought up in 30% new French oak, it offers loads of ripe black cherry and black raspberry fruit, tobacco leaf, and damp earth-like aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, nicely textured, concentrated, and with terrific polish and elegance, it's a rocking effort that will drink nicely for 10-15 years. Tasted twice."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a little underwhelming in terms of its fruit expression, with some savoury cassis and bilberry flavours on the fringes of under ripeness. It's carefully extracted, showing admirable construction, and there are some luscious qualities here. The juice comes back in on the final section, which bodes well for ageing, but I just feel the 2017 fruit expression is below full power. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038"*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Dominique was picked from 15 to 29 September at just 18h/ha and matured in 30% new oak, less than previous years. The estate is now under the directorship of winemaker Gwendoline Lucas. It has a nicely focused bouquet that shows more elegance than recent vintages that I have been fairly critical of. Here there is more precision and more terroir expression, a tad herbaceous underneath the fruit that merely adds freshness rather than under-ripeness. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin that frame layers of red and black fruit infused with*

*Hoisin and white pepper notes. It does not quite have the panache shown by the nose and it pulls up a little short but I have a sense of a change in direction, one that I like. It might be regarded as a work in progress but it should still drink well for a decade or more."*

- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Dominique offers notable richness and textural depth, with a good bit of aromatic freshness that perks up the red and purplish berry fruit. Suave, silky tannins add to the wine's enticing personality. Dark cherry, plum, espresso and leather build into the super expressive, layered finish. Tasted three times."*

- 92-94 Punkte JEFF LEVE

**CHATEAU LA GAFFELIERE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 64,90 Euro (86,53 €/l)

- 95-97+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Composed of 40% Cabernet Franc and 60% Merlot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 La Gaffeliere has pronounced cassis, baked plums and blackberry pie notes with suggestions of lavender, baking spices and rose hip tea. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of ripe, fine-grained tannins, an electric intensity of bright black and blue fruits and wonderful freshness, finishing long and minerally."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This very long and powerful yet all in balance and harmony. Full body and layered and chewy tannins. Softness and depth. Excellence for the vintage."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a powerful wine, with great power and richness from concentrated fruit and dense tannins. The ripe black fruits are impressive, solid and intense. It will age well for many years; try after 2023."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Gaffeliere has quite a high toned, floral, crème de cassis and black cherry scented bouquet that feels well defined, although the oak sticks out at the moment and will require several years to be absorbed. The palate is medium-bodied with quite bold tannin, layers of blackberry and black cherry fruit laced with graphite and spices. It feels like a solid La Gaffeliere but it needs to manifest more elegance on the finish. However, I appreciate the purity of this Saint-Émilion and its persistence."*

- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Gaffeliere is without question one of the wines of the vintage in Saint-Émilion. Bright, precise and wonderfully lifted, the 2017 is all precision. Exquisite aromatics and lively, red-toned fruit infuse this mid-weight, remarkably pure Saint-Émilion. Spice, blood orange and floral notes add the closing layers of nuance. The 2017 really dazzles. Don't miss it."*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LA MONDOTTE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 159,90 Euro (213,20 €/l)

- 96-98+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"There was no frost here. Composed of 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 La Mondotte simply sings of gorgeous ripe blackberries, mulberries and black raspberries with touches of sandalwood, lavender, licorice and rose hips plus wafts of garrigue and exotic spices. The palate is medium to full-bodied, rich and concentrated with firm, very silky tannins and layer upon layer of black fruits and spices, finishing very long and beautifully perfumed."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 La Mondotte was picked 14 to 29 September at 26hl/ha, a respectable yield since this was not touched by the frost. It is matured in 60% new oak. It has quite a rich and opulent bouquet with layers of kirsch, wild strawberry, blood orange and rose petals. Sure, it is a little glossy in style although that is usual for La Mondotte at this early stage. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin. This feels quite rounded in the mouth, low acidity, sensual in texture with a touch of spice and white pepper towards the sumptuous finish. Without question this is the best of Comte Stephan von Neipperg's wines this year and a really quite masterful La Mondotte. Tasted three times with consistent notes."*

- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Mondotte is a total stunner, not to mention one of the wines of the vintage. Exquisitely layered in the glass, the 2017 possesses stunning freshness and vibrant to play off the characteristically dense Mondotte fruit. Lavender, chocolate, menthol, spice, crushed rocks and new leather add nuance to a core of plush, inky dark fruit. La Mondotte was spared damage from frost. For the first time, La Mondotte contains 30% Cabernet Franc. Tasted two times."*

- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Incredibly complete for the vintage, this cascades with its character of dark chocolate, blackberry coulis and Chinese spices. It's so very beguiling on the palate with rich yet in-tune black fruit and complemented by regal, surrounding tannins. Bright acid carries this through to a long finish."*

- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Solidly built, with a ganache frame that marries well with the core of fig and plum compote flavors. Tobacco and chalky minerality line the finish, revealing an echo of savory at the very end. Starts big and gains refinement as it moves along."*

- 97 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 93-95 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The deepest colored in the lineup from owner Stephan von Neipperg, the 2017 La Mondotte comes from a magical terroir covering 11.5-acres of clay and limestone soils located above Pavie and Pavie Decesse. It boasts a vibrant purple color to go with fresh, gorgeously pure notes of blueberries, violets, licorice, and ample minerality. Possessing medium to full-bodied richness, ripe, present tannin, integrated acidity, and a great finish, it doesn't have the volume or weight of the 2015 and is made in a more elegant, finesse-driven style. It's a brilliant wine that's going to need 4-5 years of cellaring and keep for two decades or more."*

- 19+ WEINWISSER

**CHATEAU LARCIS DUCASSE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 66,60 Euro (88,80 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Larcis Ducasse is deep garnet-purple colored with a bombastic, gregarious nose of preserved plums, baked blackberries and mocha with hints of sautéed herbs, pencil lead and chargrilled meats plus a waft of yeast extract. The palate is big, rich and full-bodied with a very firm frame of chewy tannins and lashings of oak joining with opulent fruit, finishing long."*
- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A very pretty and structured red with blackberries, blueberries and hints of limestone character. Medium to full body, solid tannins and a real freshness underneath. Long and flavorful."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine is fruity, soft and rounded. With attractive acidity and some firm tannins in the background, it has enough structure to allow it to age. The core of the wine is dry with a ripe surround. Drink from 2023."*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Larcis-Ducasse was cropped at 34hl/ha from 18 to 29 September for the Merlot and 29 September to 2 October for the Cabernet Franc. It has a very high-toned, iodine-tinged bouquet that just lacks the usual harmony, and certainly the cohesion that I discerned apropos the 2015 and 2016 vintages at this early stage. The palate is underpinned by fine tannin and here demonstrates much more harmony than the aromatics. The black fruit is flecked by black pepper and subtle fennel notes, the tannins are quite fine and the finish is much more linear and stricter than recent vintages. It is a more classically styled Larcis-Ducasse this year but it should age well. I expect it will land towards the upper end of my banded score."*
- 92-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Larcis Ducasse is a rich, sensual wine, with softer contours and more plushness than is typically the case, part of which is attributable to the vintage and part of which is the result of gentler winemaking. Dark red cherry and plum fruit is nicely pushed forward in this succulent, racy Saint-Émilion. Mocha, licorice and menthol wrap around the juicy, pliant finish. The 2017 is an especially succulent, racy Larcis. It has been consistently brilliant on the four occasions I have tasted it so far."*

**CHATEAU LASSEGUE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 27,90 Euro (37,20 €/l)

- 93-95 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Lassegue displays a deep garnet-purple color and quite a spicy nose giving up black pepper, cinnamon and cloves notes over a core of crème de cassis and preserved plums with a waft of dusty soil. The palate is medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of chewy tannins and tons of black fruit layers, finishing long and spicy."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lassègue was tasted twice, one sample not representative as it was too old. The second sample taken the day before, has a perfumed bouquet with iris and light incense aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin and ample, tobacco-tinged black fruit. I really appreciate the balance and freshness of this Lassègue. It feels nicely poised with just a light graphite note poking its head above the surface towards the finish. This property, owned by the Jackson family of Kendall-Jackson/Verité fame, has great terroir and this 2017 shows it off well."*
- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Pretty core of black fruits enveloped in a ball of tight yet muscular tannins. Solid concentration, but it's married with acid drive and finesse."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"This estate covers 36ha in total, with the grand vin coming from 24ha along the côtes, unaffected by frost. The vines grow on south-facing slopes on a mix of hard asteries limestone and softer molasses du Fronsadais. This is a rather lovely 2017 from winemaker Pierre Seillan, showing excellent density with touches of well-textured raspberry and crushed damson fruit. The austerity is evident, but it unwinds itself beautifully through the palate, and the harmony makes it one of the successes in St-Émilion. Harvested 21 September to 5 October. 80% new oak, a touch more than in 2016. 3.7pH. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036"*

**CHATEAU LA TOUR DU PIN FIGEAC – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 24,30 Euro (32,40 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and focused with blackberries and cocoa powder. Medium body, firm tannins and juicy finish."*

**CHATEAU LA VOUTE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 36,00 Euro (48,00 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 La Voute delivers notes of chargrill, tar and black soil over a core of blackberries and red and black plums. The palate is medium to full-bodied with firm, ripe tannins and a compelling racy line lifting the intense red and black fruits, leading to a long finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 La Voûte has pretty black cherry and blueberry fruit on the nose that opens nicely in the glass. The oak here is well managed. The palate is medium-bodied with pastille-like black fruit, slightly lower acidity than its peers with a silky smooth finish that lingers nicely. It is not a complex Saint-Émilion but it is well crafted."*
- 89-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château La Voute is a serious Saint-Emilion that shines for its incredible elegance, complexity, and charm. Offering up a pretty bouquet of sweet cherries, spice box, and dried flowers, it hits the palate with medium-bodied depth and richness, ripe tannin, and a clean, silky finish. It doesn't beat you over the head with power or richness, yet grows on you with time in the glass. It should drink nicely for 7-8 years."*
- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A tight and solid 2017 with subtle wet earth, dark fruit and fresh herbs. Medium body and a clean finish."*

**CHATEAU LES GRANDES MURAILLES** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 41,60 Euro (55,47 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Grandes Murailles opens with fresh black raspberries and blackberries on the nose plus hints of charcuterie, tar and chargrill. The palate is medium-bodied with a well-played chewy frame coming into balance with the succulent fruit and ample freshness, finishing with a pleasant lift."*
- 88-89 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A red with a salty, fruity and wet-earth character. Medium body, a solid core of fruit and a fresh finish."*
- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Les Grandes Murailles, purchased by the Cuvelier family of Clos Fourtet around three years ago, has a floral bouquet, pressed rose petals infusing the cranberry and crushed strawberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly gritty tannin. There is plenty of soy-tinged dark berry fruit laced with black pepper, nicely balanced towards the finish even if it is just missing the energy that the best vintages of Les Grandes Murailles have offered."*
- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The Les Grandes Murailles is gorgeous. Supple, racy and inviting, the 2017 shows a bit more raciness and overall depth than it usually does, but all the elements are very nicely put together. Blue/purplish fruit, lavender, licorice and spice all run through this lush, impeccably balanced, mid-weight Saint-Émilion from the Cuvelier family. Tasted two times."*

**CHATEAU LES GRAVIERES** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 17,80 Euro (23,73 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte YVES BECK

**CHATEAU LYNSOLENCÉ** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 30,30 Euro (40,40 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"More linear, young St.-Emilion with dark-fruit and mineral undertones. Medium-to full-bodied, firm and silky. Driven."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Lynsolence has a high-toned bouquet with blueberry and light cassis fruit, just a touch of iodine in the background. It feels modern in style but manages to retain decent definition. The palate is medium-bodied with pretty black cherry and blackcurrant notes matched by a fine thread of acidity and a discrete pencil lead tincture on the finish. Very fine."*
- 89-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Lynsolence is powerful, racy and voluptuous, with soft curves that enhance the red berry and floral-infused flavors. Beautifully vivid and nuanced to the core, this supple, open-knit Saint-Émilion has a lot to offer. All of the elements are very nicely balanced."*
- 91-93 Punkte YVES BECK

**CHATEAU MONBOUSQUET ROUGE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 52,00 Euro (69,33 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright and fresh, featuring floral lift, a bright savory streak and light tobacco and cedar hints mixed with a core of cassis and cherry preserves. Easy to approach, with crunchy acidity. Shows the textbook profile of the vintage."*
- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Tight and linear with dark berries and hints of toasted oak. Medium-to full-bodied, chewy and long."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This is a bold wine, full of structure and dense tannins. It has layers of black fruits, juicy acidity and a ripe, chocolate-coffee character. This producer is now producing great wines with richness and concentration."*
- 91 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"This vineyard was significantly hit by frost, but I was told there was no use of second-generation fruit. Composed of 60% Merlot with Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2017 Monbousquet is profoundly scented of baked plums, blackberry pie and mincemeat pie with touches of mocha, unsmoked cigars and tilled black earth. The palate is medium to full-bodied, firm and grainy with seamless freshness and tons of black fruit and exotic spice layers coming through on the long finish."*
- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Monbousquet is promising. Dense and concentrated in the glass, the 2017 has a lovely streak of freshness to pay off the racy fruit. Super ripe dark cherry, blueberry, grave, smoke and mocha are laced into the powerful, explosive finish in this super-expressive Monbousquet."*

**CHATEAU MONBOUSQUET BLANC** – Bordeaux Blanc

Basispreis 52,30 Euro (69,73 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Dense and fruity with lots of sliced-melon and -lemon character. Full-bodied and flavorful. Beautiful lemon-curd and cooked-apple undertones."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"3–4,000 bottles. 60% Sauvignon Blanc, 30% Sauvignon Gris (planted 2014, half and half with Sauvignon Blanc), 5% Muscadelle, 5% Sémillon. Fermented in tank for homogeneity, then six months in 50% new oak. Also a concrete egg which adds roundness but reduces acidity. The Gris adds aroma and roundness, says general manager Philippe Develay. Not typical Bordeaux Blanc – neither from the blend, nor from the flavour. Markedly aromatic with grassy Sauvignon Blanc character but also a much richer ripe-pear aroma from the Gris and lifted grapefruit and lemon. Attractive dusty, chalky aroma,*

*too. Rich and full in the mouth and good freshness. Rich, full-bodied and lots of creamy texture. Has depth and freshness in equal measure. Hard to predict how it will age and it may be a wine that divides opinion."*

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"There was just a little frost here this year. A blend of 60% Sauvignon Blanc, 30% Sauvignon Gris, 5% Sémillon and 5% Muscadelle, the 2017 Blanc has pretty aromas of lemon curd, white peaches and fresh grapefruit with touches of chalk dust and orange blossom. The palate is medium-bodied, very zippy and refreshing with a great intensity of citrus flavors and a mineral-laced finish."*

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Pretty peach and heather notes glide through in this white, with a whiff of straw and brioche flavors, and a lingering hint of orange blossom. A flattering style, with the freshness for balance."*

**CHATEAU MOULIN SAINT GEORGES – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,87 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"The dark-berry and wet-earth character is pretty. Medium body, firm and silky tannins and a fresh finish. Solid acidity."*

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has a bounce to the tannins, and again the austerity of the vintage is evident. There's no over ripeness to the fruit but there are attractive layers of soft damson and textured gooseberry and redcurrant fruits, with floral aromatics lifting everything up. 100% new oak with a low and light toast. 20% of the crop was lost to frost, with no second generation fruit used, so this vintage will see 19,000 bottles instead of a more normal 25,000. Drinking Window 2023 – 2035"*

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Moulin Saint-Georges is gorgeous. Pliant, open-knit and seductive, the 2017 offers lovely depth in its inky blue/purplish fruit and floral notes. Silky tannins add to the wine's inviting personality. This supple, juicy Saint-Émilion from the Vauthier family will drink well upon release. Best of all, it should be a terrific value."*

**CHATEAU PAVIE – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 383,00 Euro (510,67 €/l)

- 97-99 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"There was no frost in this vineyard in 2017, due to its elevation, and grapes were harvested September 25 through October 3. Composed of 60% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Franc and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, the very deep purple-black colored 2017 Pavie has a profound nose of crushed blackcurrants, warm black plums and black forest cake with nuances of licorice, espresso, Chinese five spice and violets plus wafts of smoked meats and garrigue. Full-bodied, rich, firm, velvety and packed solid with black and blue fruit layers accented by sparks of exotic spices and floral scents, it finishes very long and incredibly layered. This is a very unique expression of this vintage."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pavie, picked from 25 September and matured in 80% new oak, comes in with 14.61° alcohol and a pH of 3.61. It has a clean, pure bouquet with blackberry, briary, cedar and pencil lead aromas, the latter emanating from the Cabernet Sauvignon. This is one of the bouquets that you might mistake for a Left Bank due to the high Cabernet content. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, layers of black fruit are laced with tar and tobacco – a far less opulent Pavie than recent vintages. Grippy and assertive, a more masculine Saint-Émilion compared to its peers, quite saline towards the finish. It is a Pavie for long-term ageing. Patience required."*

- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Pavie is very good, but it is also a bit somber in this vintage, almost as if the lack of sun during the summer speaks through the wine. Wild cherry, blueberry jam, leather and spice add to an impression of darkness. The 2017 finishes with real density and power to round things out. I can't wait to see how the 2017 develops over the next year."*

- 96-97 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very velvety with a very pretty density and richness. Full body and chewy tannins. Focused and tight on the finish. Succulent and savory, too. Shows strength and subtlety at the same time."*

- 95-97+ Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"If I had to pick one wine to be the wine of the vintage, at least at this early stage, it would be the 2017 Pavie. One of the deepest, richest, most opulent wines produced, it offers a heavenly bouquet of black and blue fruits, crushed violets, graphite, and spring flowers. While it's not going to match the 2015 in sheer scale, it has sensational purity, a seamless texture, no hard edges, and pumps out way more fruit and texture than just about every other wine made in 2017. Hats off to the Perse family for this incredible effort."*

- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine has a fresh lift that prior releases didn't necessarily boast. That freshness lends elegance to the wine, coupled with the fine fruity richness of the terroir. It is finely structured and cut by great acidity and spice. Drink from 2026."*

- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a good Pavie, with a good amount of clear water between it and the second wine. There's no doubt that this is a big wine, high on extraction of black fruits, coffee and tar aromatics, but the overall feel is velvety and fresh, as it was in 2016. 80% new oak has been used this time, compared to 100% previously, but still for 24 months, and the estate has continued their practice of beginning harvest a little earlier than in the past (helped by the vintage of course), getting going on 20 September this year. It's a very good wine for the vintage, with impressive texture, and they are doing a very successful job of moving towards a more sculpted feel without sacrificing their signature. They had no blockage of maturity here, and no frost; the altitude and the limestone saw to that. Drinking Window 2026 – 2040"*

- 97 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU PAVIE MACQUIN – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 71,60 Euro (95,47 €/l)

- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Pavie Macquin is deep garnet-purple in color and opens with flamboyant notes of warm black and red plums, black cherries and tilled soil with delicate touches of cloves, star anise, red roses and forest floor. Medium-bodied with a firm backbone of very finely grained, very ripe tannins and tons of freshness, it has wonderfully elegant yet intense fruit layers and a long, minerally finish. Just beautiful."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very solid center palate of fruit and firm, silky tannins. Linear and bright with a focused and pretty finish. Full-bodied, tight and precise. Very clear and bright."*
- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Big in tannins as well as fruit, this wine is very fine. It has weight, concentrated black fruits and juicy acidity. The fruit is approachable, giving fruitiness and a soft aftertaste. Drink this fine wine from 2024."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Pavie-Macquin was picked at 34hl/ha from 20 September to 9 October and is matured in 60% new oak. I am quite smitten by the nose here, perhaps more than Larcis-Ducasse at this early stage – very pure with scents of black cherries, cassis and violet, showing a little more opulence than the aforementioned Saint-Émilion. The palate is sweet and sensual on the entry with blackberry, raspberry, a pinch of white pepper and spice. The tannins here feel very fine and the final half is unapologetically silky smooth in texture, the new oak seamlessly integrated. This could turn out to be one of the picks on the Right Bank."*
- 93-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"A sexy, racy wine, the 2017 Pavie Macquin is full of personality. A rush of sweet red cherry, plum, rose petal, mint and blood orange infuses this sumptuous, racy Saint-Émilion. A wine of striking purity and total class, Pavie Macquin dazzles. As always, Pavie Macquin is marked by stunning fruit purity, red fruit, soft contours and silky, voluptuous tannins. In 2017, the blend has a bit more Cabernet Franc than in the past, now that younger vineyards have come online."*
- 18 Punkte WEINWISSENER
- 93-95+ Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"From a cooler, north-facing terroir located on the upper plateau of Saint Emilion, the 2017 Château Pavie Macquin sports a deep purple/blue color as well as perfumed, exotic notes of black cherries, blueberries, crushed rocks, violets, and ample floral nuances. With bright acidity, ripe, yet firm tannin, it shows the cooler, focused, austere side to the vintage, yet is pure, concentrated, and impeccably balanced. This is a 2017 built for the long haul and is going to need at least 4-5 years of bottle age. The blend is 80% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon, harvested between the 20th of September and the 9th of October."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU QUINAULT L'ENCLOS – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 29,90 Euro (39,87 €/l)

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with blackberry and chocolate character. Medium-to full-bodied, pretty and focused. A delicious young wine."*
- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a success for an estate that has now seen ten years under the stewardship of Cheval Blanc, undergoing lots of replanting and reworking of the vineyards, as well as changing the way they work in the cellar. There was no frost here thanks to their proximity to the town of Libourne. The vines are on gravelly soils from the river bed, as on the Pomerol plateau, and the lack of water over the summer meant the Cabernet Sauvignon did better than the Cabernet Franc. There is still the slightest dip of savoury fruit, reflecting the vintage conditions, but this is coupled with a freshness and juiciness that I really like, alongside touches of florality and some clean redcurrant, raspberry and brambled fruits. The tannins are fine and the acidity is good without being sharp. Matured in 500l casks, 50% new, for 12 months. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036"*
- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"There was no frost at all in Quinault l'Enclos, as it is right in Libourne and a bit warmer. The 2017 Quinault l'Enclos is blended of 64% Merlot, 22% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Cabernet Franc, aged in 50% new oak and 50% one-year-old oak—only 500-liter barrels and foudres. Deep garnet-purple in color, it gives expressive notes of warm plums, blackberry pie and black forest cake with touches of Chinese five spice and dusty soil. The palate is medium-bodied, firm and grainy with a good amount of earthy fruit and a savory finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This soft, ripe wine has generous black-fruit flavors and fine acidity. The palate is juicy, with dense fruit and chocolate tones framed by light tannins. There is a crisp, fresh finish, which gives the wine a fine lift."*
- 92 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

**CHATEAU ROL VALENTIN – Saint Emilion**

Basispreis 31,80 Euro (42,40 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with dark berries, hints of chocolate and hazelnuts. Medium body. Tight and integrated."*
- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"I loved the 2017 Château Rol Valentin, which has a deep, rounded, sexy texture as well as a great bouquet of cassis, leafy herbs, plums, and exotic flowers. It's medium-bodied, has ripe tannin, and integrated acidity, and is certainly going to be an outstanding wine. This estate covers close to 12 acres and the blend is 80-85% Merlot with the balance Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc."*
- 88-90+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Rol Valentin gives expressive cassis and warm black plum notes on the nose with underlying cedar chest, unsmoked cigars and black olives suggestions. Medium-bodied with a firm backbone of grainy tannins and lovely freshness, it has a good amount of taut, muscular fruit and nice purity to the finish."*
- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Rol Valentin is occasionally a little overdone at primeur however, fair dues, this was showing more composure and refinement than I anticipated allowing the attractive raspberry and mulberry fruit to really blossom in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannin, well judged acidity, harmonious and certainly silky smooth in texture, rendering this very sensual. It is one of the best Rol Valentin that I have tasted at this stage. All it needs now is a careful, prudent élevage."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Rol Valentin is polished, lifted and quite a bit more nuanced than it usually is. In 2017, only the best parcels - those at the top of the hillsides and on the plateau - survived the frost. Sweet red berry, chocolate, mocha and floral notes are all laced together. There is freshness and silkiness to the 2017 that I find especially appealing. I can't wait to taste this in bottle."*

**CHATEAU SAINT GEORGES** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 30,80 Euro (41,07 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very sophisticated with a full body, fresh acidity, chewy tannins and a long yet savory finish. Regal and dialed-in, and the tannin quality is very velvety despite the concentrated fruit."*  
 - 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"There's lots to like here as this budding red sports raspberry and boysenberry compote flavors, with streaks of anise and violet, maintaining good energy all the way through."*  
 - 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"A dry but coolish summer combined with limestone soils certainly sends those pH levels pretty low. Although fairly tight and austere, this unfolds prettily with a good focus of brambly and bristling black fruits, and a clear sense of lift through the palate. Gentle liquorice and bitter dark chocolate notes are extremely well done. The acidity is high, but just about controlled and balanced by the other elements. It's not a hedonistic experience, for sure - it's a wine that you need to sit down with. Intellectual and promising. Drinking Window 2024 – 2036"*

**CHATEAU SANSONNET** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 28,90 Euro (38,53 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The present blend of the 2017 Sansonnet is 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc. Deep garnet-purple in color, it offers up notions of crushed blackcurrants, wild blueberries and black raspberries with wafts of pencil shavings, tobacco leaf and lavender. Medium to full-bodied with a firm frame of grippy tannins and just enough freshness, it has just enough vibrant fruit to flesh out the structure and good length."*  
 - 89-90 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine has solid tannins balanced with juicy acidity and ripe fruit flavors. The rich texture blends admirable structure with luscious fruit. Drink this delicious wine from 2021."*  
 - 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Shows a light coffee and ganache frame around a core of lightly steeped plum and blackberry fruit. Toast drapes on the finish. Offers more heft than cut, but remains solid."*  
 - 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Sansonnet is a rich, explosive wine endowed with real depth and intensity. I have seen Sansonnet blossom with a few years in bottle, and suspect that may very well happen here as well. Lavender, menthol, crushed rocks, spice, chocolate, smoke and tobacco add layers of nuance to the inky dark fruit. This is a terrific showing from proprietors Christophe and Marie Lefèvre. Tasted two times."*  
 - 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Sansonnet was cropped at 21hl/ha from 6.96-hectares of vine on limestone soils surrounding the Maison. It was picked from 19 September to 1 October and it is matured in 100% new oak and two 7.5hl amphora used for the Merlot. It has a fresh bouquet with red cherries, crushed strawberry and a touch of black truffle. This is quite refined. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, crisp acidity, conveying a fine sense of energy with a precise finish that disguises the new oak with some style. Excellent."*  
 - 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"This 7ha estate owned by Marie-Bénédicte Lefèvre is one to watch and is often good value for the terroir, something that is increasingly rare in St-Émilion. This has a lovely rich expression of tight but fresh blue fruit and white pepper, courtesy of the two Cabernets. It doesn't have the generosity of 2015 or 2016, but it's a well-handled wine with an attractive saline finish. Drinking Window 2023 – 2036"*  
 - 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"A perennial overachiever, the 2017 Château Sansonnet is a hidden gem in this complex, irregular vintage. Black cherries, blueberries, violets, and hints of underbrush give way to a medium-bodied, rounded, supple, beautifully polished red that has sweet tannin and nicely integrated acidity. This estate was relatively unaffected by the April frost. The rough blend is 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Cabernet Franc, harvested between the 19th of September and the 5th of October, representing roughly 65% of the total production. It's still aging in 100% new French oak."*  
 - 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Iodine and dark fruit with blackberry and blueberry character. Hints of moss. Medium to full body and firm tannins."*

**CHATEAU SOUTARD CADET** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 28,40 Euro (37,87 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Soutard-Cadet is deep garnet-purple colored and features expressive black cherries, blackberries and kirsch scents with underlying baking spices and lavender notions. Medium-bodied with firm, grainy tannins and plenty of freshness, it has lovely intensity of black fruits and a perfumed finish. The tentative blend is 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc."*  
 - 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Soutard-Cadet, which was bought by the Lefèvre family in 2015, was picked on 22 and 23 October at 30hl/ha and it is matured in 100% new oak for 16 to 18 months (malolactic fermentation in barrel). This was showing just a little over-ripeness on the nose, not an enormous amount, with just a hint of dried prune infusing the red berry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, very smooth in texture, fleshy red cherry and strawberry fruit with a pinch of spice towards the finish. It will require three or four years to fully absorb the new oak. Just 400 cases will be produced."*  
 - 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"Located just beside Sansonnet, Château Soutard-Cadet covers a tiny 2.1 hectares of vines on the limestone plateau just outside the village of Saint-Emilion. Their 2017 is a rough blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, all aging in new oak. This beauty shows plenty of oak, yet also plenty of cassis and blueberry fruit, medium to full-bodied richness, and impressive concentration. I was able to taste this on three separate occasions and it showed outstanding potential each time. I suspect 2-4 years of bottle age will be your friend."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Shows lots of salt and mineral character. Medium to full body, chewy tannins and a juicy finish."*

**CHATEAU TAUZINAT L'HERMITAGE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 11,90 Euro (15,87 €/l)

- 90 Punkte DECANTER: *"There's a firm but fresh feel to this wine. It's clearly very carefully extracted, showing brambly fruits with subtle coffee beans on the finish. Perhaps those tannins are a touch squeezed, but this is a good wine for medium drinking. The estate is owned by the same family who own Château Taillefer in Pomerol - a new generation as of 2013. They dealt with the frost at both properties by eliminating all of the secondary growth and just bottling the unaffected vines. Eric Boissenot is consultant. Drinking Window 2022 – 2032"*

**CHATEAU TOUR SAINT CHRISTOPHE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 29,60 Euro (39,47 €/l)

- 89-91+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The tentative blend of the 2017 Tour Saint-Christophe is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc. Deep garnet-purple in color, it's purely scented of fresh blackberries, blackcurrants and mulberries with touches of pencil shavings and lavender. The palate is medium-bodied, finely crafted and refreshing in the mouth with firm, fine-grained tannins and an herbal lift on the finish."*

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Tour Saint Christophe, owned by Peter Kwok, showed much more delineation and terroir expression compared to Bellefont-Belcier tasted alongside. The aromatics are packed with black cherries, cassis and bilberry, just a light touch of the sea emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, plush black cherry and boysenberry fruit laced with orange rind and quince towards the fresh and focused finish. Very fine"*

- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"I tasted the 2017 Château Tour Saint Christophe on two separate occasions and it never failed to impress. A rough blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc that hit 14.3% natural alcohol, it has a rocking sense of minerality to go with big, broad, expansive aromas and flavors. Blueberries, black raspberries, flowers, and violets characteristics, medium to full-bodied richness, fine tannin, and excellent purity all make this a terrific 2017 that will drink nicely for 10-15+ years."*

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Dense and layered red with dark berry, volcanic ash and white pepper. Full-bodied, layered and chewy. Muscular."*

**CHATEAU TROPLONG MONDOT** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 98,70 Euro (131,60 €/l)

- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Good bramble and anise notes are matched by blackberry and black cherry compote flavors. A fresh savory streak underscores the finish. Sneakily long, with an emphasis on freshness."*

- 95-97 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Troplong Mondot saw hardly any frost—less than 10%. The 2017 Troplong Mondot is blended of 85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc. Very deep purple-black in color, it offers up a cedar chest, cinnamon stick and cloves-laced nose with a core of crème de cassis, blackberry compote and preserved plums plus wafts of licorice, violets and sandalwood. Full-bodied, concentrated and sporting a firm frame of velvety tannins, it has a lively line lifting the densely packed fruit, finishing long and on a compelling savory note."*

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A bright and vivid red with dark-berry and plum character. Floral and bright. Medium to full body. Intense and crystal-clear. Ultra-fine tannins with a long and beautiful. Wonderful balance and harmony."*

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 94-96 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Troplong Mondot, the first under the new regime of former Cos d'Estournel manager Aymeric de Gironde, has a gorgeous bouquet with well defined red and black fruit, hints of dark chocolate and crushed flowers, a subtle mineral undercurrent that becomes more prominent with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin. This is a much fresher and balanced style of Troplong Mondot that tended to be over-egged in the past. The terroir is much more evident where it counts – in the glass. There is a pleasant spiciness that comes through with aeration and a touch of sense of tension from start to finish. If this represents how this estate will continue, then the new era is going to be festooned with some exemplary wines."*

- 95-98 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Troplong Mondot is easily one of the wines of the vintage. New CEO Aymeric de Gironde (formerly of Cos d'Estournel) and consulting oenologist Thomas Duclos are masterminding a remarkable new chapter in the life of Troplong Mondot. A major stylistic shift in the direction of freshness and energy has resulted in a positively stunning Troplong Mondot endowed with tremendous depth and vibrant. A rush of black cherry, plum, mocha, new leather and spice builds as this gorgeous Saint-Émilion shows off its breeding and total class. The blend is 85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc."*

- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"Aymeric de Gironde arrived here from Cos d'Estournel in September 2017, and he is clearly intending to make his mark. To get things started, they have brought the harvest dates forward (particularly on the Butte de Mondot, where drainage in recent years has stopped that clay mound being as cool as it once was). They have also stopped carrying out malolactic in new oak and brought the level of new oak down to 65% from 90%. They have a new consultant in the form of Thomas Duclos - this is surely his year - and carried out the blending before ageing in barrel, in a nod to Aymeric's left bank experience. Very little here was affected by the frost, giving a yield of 45hl/ha, 95% used for the grand vin. This is a terroir that*

*doesn't need to be dressed up, as I have said several times in the past, and Aymeric is taking what had already begun under Xavier Parrente to the next level. This is one of the few wines to really make your heart race in 2017, with its blueberry and cool, black fruit notes with zippy minerality and a juicy, slightly saline finish. There is plenty of power, but it's contained, and the fruit is almost surprising in its purity and direction - it makes everyone around the table start talking. This is an extremely surprising 2017, one that I absolutely recommend without hesitation. Drinking Window 2026 - 2040"*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU TROTTEVIELLE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 83,30 Euro (111,07 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"About 20% of the vines were affected by frost this year. A blend of 56% Cabernet Franc, 43% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2017 Trotte Vieille is medium to deep garnet-purple in color and redolent of warm plums, crushed blackberries and blackcurrant cordial with touches of Indian spices, violets and a hint of menthol. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, grainy tannins and great freshness, with an expressive core and long finish."*

- 93-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Barrel Sample. Always a serious style of wine, this vintage has added intense fruits as well as tannins. Its concentration and dry core promise long aging while its fruit weight and fine acidity result in a bright finish. Drink from 2024."*

- 90-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"Cabernet Franc takes the leading role in the 2017 Trotte Vieille. Vibrant and succulent, with terrific depth, the 2017 has so much to say. It is also one of the most unique wines in all of Saint-Émilion. There is plenty to admire. The 2017 spent approximately four weeks on the skins. New oak is 100%, light toast barrels. The 2017 has the potential to surprise down the line."*

- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"(56% Cabernet Franc, 43% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34 hl/ha) Kräftiges, würziges Bouquet, Brombeergelee, Himbeerstauden, junges Holz. Mittelkräftiger, seidener Gaumen mit süsser Frucht, feinem Tannin, eher schlanker Struktur, langer, aromatischer Abgang."*

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows wonderful depth and tannin quality with incredible elegance and completeness. Medium to full body and racy tannins. Strength, too. It's the acid that drives the the tannins and keeps them serious and fine."*

- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 92-94 Punkte ANTHOCYANES

- 17,5 Punkte WEINWISSER

- 17-17,5 Punkte RVF

- 93 Punkte REBECCA GIBB

- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU VALANDRAUD** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 136,80 Euro (182,40 €/l)

- 94-95 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Lots of beautiful blueberry and blackberry fruits here. Medium to full body, round and very polished tannins and a flavorful finish. Wet-earth undertones. Velvety mouthfeel at the end."*

- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Bold tannins and rich fruit combine to give this wine a dense structure, yet with a great sense of freshness. Black currants and a firm tannic backdrop promise excellent aging potential. It's impressively structured and should be held until 2025."*

- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Gorgeous blackberry, boysenberry and raspberry compote flavors flow out from the core, enveloping the apple wood, anise and black tea frame as they move. Offers a gorgeous feel, ample depth, lovely polish and fine underlying acidity throughout. A terrific effort."*

- 95 Punkte JEAN MARC QUARIN

- 98 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU VALANDRAUD VIRGINIE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 32,80 Euro (43,73 €/l)

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and focused second wine from Valandraud. Medium body, firm tannins and a medium finish."*

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Firm tannins dominate this wine from the Valandraud vineyard, though they are just a part of the rich, powerful package. Its also shows a fine balance between crisp acidity and ripe, juicy black fruits. Drink from 2024."*

**CHATEAU VILLEMAURINE** – Saint Emilion

Basispreis 38,60 Euro (51,47 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Rich and fruity, this wine shows a fine balance between its dense tannins and ripe black fruits. The acidity and the tannins both promise fine aging. At the end, spice comes through the blackberry fruit. Drink from 2023."*

- 93 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 92-93 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A firm and silky red with a solid core of ripe tannins and savory fruit. Cherry and berry undertones. Pretty texture."*

- 91-93+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*The current blend of the 2017 Villemaurine is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc. Deep garnet-purple in color, it features wonderfully expressive black plums and warm blackberries notes with hints of truffles, damp soil and wood smoke. The palate is medium-bodied with a great core of ripe, rich fruit supported by rounded tannins and just enough freshness, finishing with lingering truffles and savory notes.*"

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Villemaurine, picked from 25 to 29 September, offers fine complexity on the nose with subtle blackberry and oyster shell aromas surfacing with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity, lightly spiced with a gentle, almost caressing, unassuming finish that bodes well for when this Saint-Émilion is bottled.*"

**VIEUX CHATEAU PALON** – Montagne Saint Emilion

Basispreis 19,70 Euro (26,27 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "*The big, spicy, exuberant 2017 Vieux Château Palon dishes up serious amounts of black raspberries, vanilla bean, spice, and orange blossom notes in its exotic, medium to full-bodied personality. It has considerable charm, notable complexity, and ripe tannin, and I suspect will certainly be an outstanding wine.*"

## Cotes de Castillon

**CHATEAU ALCEE** – Cotes de Castillon

Basispreis 13,80 Euro (18,40 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "*Fresh and pure, with a beam of blackberry and black cherry fruit inlaid with a light savory thread. A good chalky spine and bright acidity hold the finish.*"

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*This is very intensely salty with white pepper and dark fruits. Firm and linear. Lovely fruit.*"

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-92+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: "*Nicolas Thienpont's Alcee comes from a two-part vineyard, but the section that is by La Prade didn't get frosted, and these vines were exclusively used to make this 2017 Alcee. Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it opens with intense cassis, chocolate-covered cherries and blackberry preserves notes with touches of baking spices and lilacs. The palate is medium to full-bodied and packed with black fruits and spice layers, framed by ripe, plush tannins and finishing with impressive length.*"

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Alcée, part of Nicolas Thienpont's portfolio, was picked from 27 to 29 September from the three hectares of vine next to Monbadon, the two parcels on Saint-Philippe d'Aiguilhe having suffered from severe frost damage. It has a very confit-like bouquet: raspberry preserve, marmalade and fig aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with quite succulent tannins, again, just a little confit-like although not to the same degree as the aromatics, veins of black pepper and clove emerging towards the finish. What survived the frost has turned out well this year. 875 cases produced.*"

**CHATEAU CAP DE FAUGERES** – Cotes de Castillon

Basispreis 11,00 Euro (14,67 €/l)

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: "*Fresh and clean red with mineral and dark-berry character. Medium body and fine tannins. Nice cocoa powder character.*"

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): "*The 2017 Cap de Faugères, owned by Silvio Denz (Lafaurie-Peyraguey) has a fresh blackberry, mulberry and allspice-scented bouquet. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, quite fresh in style with a sense of energy conveyed by the pencil-lead infused finish. Give this a couple of years once in bottle and it should evolve into one of the better Côtes de Castillon wines from this difficult vintage.*"

- 88-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: "*The 2017 Cap de Faugères is absolutely delicious. Fresh, perfumed and inviting, the 2017 has a good bit of aromatic lift melded into a core of fleshy raspberry jam and red cherry fruit. The 2017 is a bit fresher and more vibrant than has been the norm for Cap de Faugères in the recent past, but that has been achieved while maintaining plenty of depth. This is really quite lovely. Tasted four times.*"

**CHATEAU D'AIGUILHE** – Cotes de Castillon

Basispreis 20,30 Euro (27,07 €/l)

- 91-93 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: "*A blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc brought up in 30% new barrels, the 2017 Château d'Aiguilhe offers a gorgeous perfume of framboise, blueberries, strawberries, and flowers. Possessing medium body, fine, silky tannin, impeccable balance and obvious minerality on the finish, it's seriously good Côtes de Castillon that over-delivers.*"

- 91-93 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: "*Lively, with fun raspberry and blackberry fruit that stays bright and engaging throughout, backed by light anise and floral notes on the finish. This should fill out nicely.*"

**CHATEAU JOANIN BECOT** – Cotes de Castillon

Basispreis 17,40 Euro (23,20 €/l)

**CHATEAU MONTLANDRIE** – Cotes de Castillon

Basispreis 19,90 Euro (26,53 €/l)

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very minerally with crushed stones and dark fruit. Medium body and tight and firm tannins. Excellent."*

- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"A blend of 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Montlandrie gives up notes of crushed black plums, red currants and black cherries with suggestions of cigar box, yeast extract, tapenade and underbrush. Medium-bodied with a solid backbone of firm, grainy tannins, it has beautiful freshness and a mineral-tinged finish."*

- 91-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Montlandrie was picked from 13 to 28 September. It boasts an utterly charming bouquet with blackberry, raspberry and just a hint of crushed violet. The palate is medium-bodied with fine grain tannin, dark fruit but fresh and lively, very precise with a welcome dash of black pepper towards the graphite-tinged finish. Denis Durantou described this as one of his favorite wines of 2017 and I can understand why."*

## Cotes de Francs

**CHATEAU DE FRANCS LES CERISIERS** – Cotes e Francs

Basispreis 10,80 Euro (14,40 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A deep and dark red with dark-berry and -plum character. Medium to full body and a silky finish."*

## Lalande de Pomerol

**CHATEAU LES CRUZELLES** – Lalande de Pomerol

Basispreis 23,20 Euro (30,93 €/l)

- 90-91 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This shows a pretty center palate of dark fruit and hints of salt. Medium-bodied, firm and silky."*

- 89-91 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Les Cruzelles opens with crushed blackcurrants and blackberry compote notions with underlying menthol, pencil lead, anise and tobacco notes plus a waft of black pepper. Medium-bodied and quite minerally in the mouth, it has a firm frame of grainy tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing with persistent earthy nuances."*

## Fronsac

**CHATEAU FONTENIL** – Fronsac

Basispreis 19,10 Euro (25,47 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte JEFF LEVE

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A solid red for the vintage with dark berries, dark chocolate and some crushed-stone character. Medium body, a pretty core of fruit and a clean finish."*

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- 89-91 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Fontenil is well defined, and quite focused compared to the previous two vintages. It has a rather conservative bouquet that nevertheless has fine intensity with attractive black fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannin, just a nagging green vein towards the second half that just discombobulates the finish and lingers unwanted on the aftertaste. That may dissipate during the élevage – we will see."*

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Ripe and forward plum and blueberry fruit sails through, featuring a light charcoal spine for balance. Shows flashes of herb and spice, with some sneaky length."*

**CHATEAU LA VIEILLE CURE** – Fronsac

Basispreis 18,80 Euro (25,07 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Nicely done, with dark currant and plum fruit and focused, racy streaks of charcoal and tobacco. Shows good grip and depth for the vintage."*

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Very pretty wine for the vintage with dark-berry, chocolate character and tightly woven tannins. Lovely center palate. Impressive for the vintage."*

- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This wine's generous black fruit flavors are rich and smoothly textured. It is firmly structured, with a solid backdrop of tannins, but there is an opulent richness that comes from the Merlot in the blend. Drink from 2020."*

- 88-90+ Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 La Vieille Cure is deep garnet-purple and intensely scented of cassis, baked plums and mulberries with touches of cedar chest, baking spices and hoisin. Medium-bodied, firm and packed with plums and spicy layers, it finishes long and chewy."*

**CHATEAU LES TROIS CROIX** – Fronsac

Basispreis 16,80 Euro (22,40 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Les Trois Croix has a very pretty nose of rose hip tea, lavender and lilacs over a core of red and black currants plus a waft of underbrush. Medium-bodied, it possesses soft, plush tannins in the mouth with great freshness and a mineral accent on the finish."*

- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Les Trois Croix initially felt a little overdone on the nose like one or two of its Fronsac brethren. That said, it seems to "calm down" in the glass and attain more definition. The palate shows more composure with supple tannin, well judged acidity and a precise, detailed finish that bodes well for the future. The more this aerates, the more composed and refined it becomes. This is a muscular yet paradoxically, refined Fronsac from Patrick Léon."*

- 88-91 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"A hidden gem, the 2017 Château Les Trois Croix sports a deep purple color as well as a classic bouquet of crème de cassis, black raspberries, toasted spices, and an undeniable minerality. This medium-bodied, ripe, beautifully textured 2017 has plenty of fruit, notable balance, and a charming style that's going to allow it drink nicely for 8-10 years."*

- 89-90 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"A solid Fronsac with dark-berry, bark and wet-earth character. Medium body. Shows focus and precision for the vintage already."*

**CHATEAU MOULIN HAUT LAROQUE** – Fronsac

Basispreis 17,70 Euro (23,60 €/l)

- 90 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO

- Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Moulin Haut-Laroque opens with blackberry preserves and black plums notions with hints of Sichuan pepper and yeast extract. The palate is medium-bodied with a well-sustained mid-palate and nicely balanced frame, finishing on a savory note."*

- 91 Punkte DECANTER: *"One of the more bouncy wines, making a positive out of the fresh fruit character. Dark spice and black cherry is in evidence. There's great intensity but also a sense of freshness. It's a wine that accompanies you all the way through the palate, holding your interest as it goes. With vines situated up in Saillans, the yields were at 30hl/h, which is fairly typical. A good 5% of 100-year-old Malbec vines makes up the blend. This is austere, but it has energy and will age well. The first wine was 70% of production for this vintage. 35% was frost affected. Drinking Window 2022 – 2024"*

- **88-90 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK:** *"Lots of spice, graphite, and assorted red and black fruits define the 2017 Château Moulin Haut Laroque. It's medium-bodied, has nicely integrated acidity, and solid mid-palate depth, which isn't a given in the vintage. It should benefit from a year or two in bottle and keep through 2027."*

- 17 Punkte VINUM

## Bordeaux Superieur

**CHATEAU CROIX MOUTON** – Bordeaux Superieur

Basispreis 9,90 Euro (13,20 €/l)

Von Jean-Philippe Moueix, dem Besitzer von Chateau La Confession und Chateau La Croix Saint Georges

## Cadillac

## Bordeaux AOC

**CHATEAU MOUTON ROTHSCHILD - AILE D'ARGENT** – Bordeaux Blanc Basispreis 76,10 Euro (101,47 €/l)

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Aile d'Argent Blanc, which was the only cru to suffer some frost damage, underwent around 14% malolactic fermentation (normally it is around 30%). It has a fresh, lemon thyme and white peach scented bouquet. The palate is well balanced with fine tension, quite saline with moderate depth, a tang of grapefruit and a touch of stem ginger towards the finish. [Readers should note one-third of this wine will be bottled under composite cork for the first time.] Tasted twice with consistent notes."*

- 90-92 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Aile d'Argent is quite, dense and powerful with more of a phenolic-like feel, which comes from an unusually high presence of Sauvignon Gris (15%) that is present in the blend. Lemon confit, white flowers and pink grape fruit. In most vintages, Aile d'Argent leans towards the more tropical end of the spectrum, but in 2017, the wine is much more citrus and stone fruit driven. Sadly, yields are down around a third because of frost damage."*

- 95-96 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"The impressive ripeness and intensity combined with elegance and finesse are what make this wonderful white. Honeysuckle, apricots, glazed grapefruit, spices and nutmeg. Medium to full body and fleshy fruit that's lifted by the delicious acidity to the long finish."*
- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A plump style, featuring lemon curd, pear and shortbread notes starting to define themselves, with white peach and honeysuckle accents."*
- 91-93 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"One-third of the crop for this wine was lost to frost. A blend of 53% Sauvignon Blanc, 46% Sémillon and 1% Muscadelle, the 2017 Aile d'Argent has lovely white peaches, lemon curd and beeswax notes with hints of orange peel, grapefruit and a touch of sage. The palate is light to medium-bodied and bursting with exuberant stone fruit and citrus flavors, with a racy line and a long, peachy finish."*
- 94 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 18,5 Punkte WEINWISSER
- 96 Punkte DECANTER: *"This is a gorgeous wine, with wonderfully round stone fruit flavours, reminiscent of apricot and generous white peach. It shows huge intensity and concentration, with a wet stone minerality on the finish - for me, that is always a texture not a flavour, and extremely welcome in a young white wine. They lost two of the five plots to frost, so production is 35-40% down on normal. The grapes were picked between 30 August and 5 September, and 13% went through malo. There is 1% of Muscadelle in addition to the blend given. Drinking Window 2019 – 2030"*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU DE LA COUR D'ARGENT** – AOC Bordeaux Superieur Basispreis 8,30 Euro (11,07 €/l)

- 88-90 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 de la Cour d'Argent, a Bordeaux Supérieur from Jean-Luc Thunévin's stable, has an attractive blackberry and sous-bois scented bouquet with touches of mineral and tobacco coming through with aeration. The palate is medium bodied with grippy tannin, a light marine influence coming through and fine delineation towards the finish. Frankly, I prefer this to some of the more self-aggrandizing wines that I tasted on the Right Bank."*
- 89-91 Punkte BECKUSTATOR

## Sauternes

**CHATEAU CANTEGRIL** – Sauternes Basispreis 18,30 Euro (24,40 €/l)

- 89-92 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A racy and fresh style, with focused pineapple, white peach and blanched almond notes. Pretty honeysuckle and chamomile hints appear through the finish."*
- 92 Punkte DECANTER: *"A rich but well-measured Sauternes, this is packed full of nectarine pits, rich peaches, grilled almond and tobacco notes, joined by the saffron and white pepper spice that marks it as a good quality Sauternes. Slightly higher levels of acidity would balance things out, but this is impressive stuff, with a ribbon of silk running through the middle. Drinking Window 2020 – 2030"*
- 16,5 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"85% Sémillon, 15% Sauvignon Blanc. Honeyed lemon aroma. Sweet and rich in almond-paste flavours, with pears and creamy rich texture, and a fine mealy character. Long."*

**CHATEAU COUTET** - Sauternes Basispreis 38,60 Euro (51,47 €/l)

- 93-94 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Lots of powdered mushrooms, dried lemons and apricots. Full-bodied, dense and layered. Beautiful finish. A top sweet white for the vintage."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"This wine shows great balance and poised elegance. Its botrytis fruit gives it rich intensity, with a ripe orange-marmalade flavor and layers of tight acidity. This will be a wine for serious aging and not ready to drink before 2024."*
- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright pineapple and white peach flavors rush forth, with a zip of tangerine running through the creamy finish. Shows lots of honeysuckle accents on the finish. Youthfully tight, but delivers wonderful length."*
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 17 Punkte JEAN MARC QUARIN
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU DE MALLE** – Sauternes Basispreis 33,30 Euro (44,40 €/l)

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Medium body, a sweet and dense palate and sliced apples, peaches and caramel on the finish. Bright acidity."*
- 90-92 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Rich while also intensely structured, this wine is already showing a delicious, open character. The acidity shines through the wine's sweetness, giving lift to the decadent spiced fruit tones. Drink from 2023."*
- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 de Malle gives up lovely lemon mint and orange peel notes with wafts of musk perfume and lime leaves. Lively, pure, layered and refreshing in the mouth, it has bags of class and great length."*

- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 de Malle has a lighter bouquet than I expected, one that was missing some energy compared to its peers although it does seem to gain intensity with aeration. The palate is well balanced, very energetic with pure botrytis fruit. This is a sophisticated second growth Sauternes with impressive clarity and detail on the finish. Excellent."*

**CHATEAU DE RAYNE VIGNEAU** - Sauternes

Basispreis 43,40 Euro (57,87 €/l)

- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Intense and on the tropical side, featuring melon, fig and pear flavors draped with maple and apricot accents. Shows depth and power, with a toasted coconut finish."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. This indulgent wine is rich, opulent and concentrated. At the same time, the core of botrytis and rich fruit will allow the wine to age well. The finish boasts an acidic lift and a touch of ginger flavor. Drink from 2024."*

**CHATEAU DOISY DAENE** – Barsac

Basispreis 36,60 Euro (48,80 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Doisy Daëne has a slightly closed nose with ripe apples and fresh pears accented with sparks of lemon and orange peel plus a touch of fungi. It's very rich and bold in the mouth with balancing freshness and a long earthy finish."*

- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A bold, ripe, unctuous style in the making, with lots of spicy orange, tangerine and peach notes that roll through an exotic, hazelnut-filled finish."*

- 93-95 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Doisy-Daëne is a little richer on the nose compared to recent vintages, quite pure with acacia honey, melted wax and touches of almond filtering through with aeration. The palate is well balanced with a viscous opening, finely judged acidity, borrowing some of the weight usually expressed by Doisy-Védrines to create a very satisfying and opulent finish. It does not give the live-wire tension that is common in this Barsac, but it does give plenty of depth and length."*

- 94 Punkte DECANTER: *"As with its next door neighbour, this benefits from limestone soils in what is a late-onset botrytis vintage for the sweet wines of Bordeaux. It means it has some fresh, fine, blooming acids, just scraping through the mid-palate and balanced by gorgeous notes of candied ginger, white flowers, honeysuckle, jasmine and a seam of freshness. It really grows on me, and has great persistency. Drinking Window 2020 – 2036"*

- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Barsac. 85% Sémillon, 15% Sauvignon Blanc. RS 124 g/l, TA (sulphuric) 4.5 g/l. Ripe and expressive on the nose, already complex with almond, bitter orange, vanilla and spiced pear. Viscous and generous on the palate but still beautifully fresh. Powerful almond-paste flavour on the palate but finishes with citrus and apricot."*

- 93-97 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Doisy Daëne is a seriously decadent, thick, opulent beauty that packs serious sweetness in its canned peach, lime peel, and exotic tropical fruit aromas and flavors. While it's a big wine, it has terrific balance, good density and concentration, and a huge finish. It's a potential blockbuster Barsac that's going to have a long life."*

- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU DOISY DAENE EXTRAVAGANT Demi 0,375 l** – Sauternes

Basispreis 191,50 Euro (510,67 €/l)

- 95-97+ Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 L'Extravagant comes charging out of the glass with pure grapefruit and pineapple notes with hints of straw, fresh ginger and lime zest. Super sweet, super crisp and with incredible layers, it is completely packed with citrus and tropical layers, finishing very long."*

- 93-96 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"This is lovely, with lots of tangerine, peach and orange flavors laced with piecrust, hazelnut and bitter almond notes. The long finish flows nicely. Should be lovely."*

- 95-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 L'Extravagant de Doisy-Daëne comes from two tries, one at the end of September and the second during the first week of October. Although it has between 195 to 200g/L residual sugar, it has a less flamboyant bouquet than recent vintages. This feels much more controlled and focused with pure honeyed fruit laced with white peach, yellow plum and a light resinous scent. The palate is medium-bodied with sumptuous, unctuous honeyed fruit, mango, persimmon and a little lemon peel that lends tension towards the powerful, show-stopping finish. It lives up to its name. (Readers should note that there is just one and a half barrels instead of the normal three or four.)"*

- 95 Punkte DECANTER: *"It's very hard not to be impressed with this wine. Extremely silky, this has an almost pure mandarin flavour, shot through with some lovely blood orange bitterness. Following on are darkly spiced, tightly-expressed stone fruits. I wish there was a touch more lime on the finish, but this is a fantastic example of accomplished winemaking. Extravagant. Drinking Window 2020 – 2035"*

- 18 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Barsac. RS 204 g/l. They made just 1.5 barrels and Bordeaux Gold had one half-bottle sample. Intense, spiced pineapple aroma. So viscous it is physically hard to spit. Rich in botrytis flavours of orange and apricot with a bitter-orange flavour adding to the freshness on the finish. Voluptuous and a real achievement in this vintage."*

**CHATEAU GUIRAUD** - Sauternes

Basispreis 41,30 Euro (55,07 €/l)

- 90-93 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Lively, featuring white peach, lemon zest and thyme notes zipping along. Very pretty, with a refreshing finish."*

- 94-96 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe, botrytized fruit currently dominates this wine with its rich concentration. It is a full and liquorous wine that will age for many years. Drink from 2025."*

- 91-92 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"Pretty deepness and ripeness to this with honeydew, dried-melon and lemon character. Medium body. Bright finish."*
- 17 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU LAFAURIE PEYRAGUEY** - Sauternes

Basispreis 46,50 Euro (62,00 €/l)

- 92-95 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"A plump, open and forward style, with lots of white peach, apricot and pineapple fruit flavors backed by creamed melon and honeysuckle notes. Very flattering."*
- 93-95 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Great acidity gives this wine a really fresh character. Ripe yellow fruits complement the wine's freshness, with a lingering spice note on the close. It is complex, with considerable aging potential. Drink from 2024."*
- 18 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU RAYMOND LAFON** – Sauternes

Basispreis 38,00 Euro (50,67 €/l)

- 92-94 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Raymond-Lafon has a nose of musk perfume, truffles and wet pebbles over a core of applesauce and spiced pears. The palate is full, rich and earthy with bags of depth and a very long finish."*
- 92-94 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Ripe and honeyed, this is a dense, opulent wine. Layers of botrytis combine with rich orange marmalade and apricot. It will age well; drink from 2023."*
- 91-94 Punkte WINESPECTATOR: *"Bright, featuring a flash of honeysuckle and orange blossom notes leading off, followed by a core of almond and ginger cream flavors, with a rounded, polished finish."*
- 91-93 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Raymond-Lafon has to shake off a bit of SO2 however, underneath lies plenty of ripe botrytized fruit with grapefruit and melon aromas. The palate is well balanced with fine definition on the entry although, it just lacks some tension towards the finish to counterbalance the richness and residual sugar. This wine often improves during its élevage and this is factored into my score."*
- 93 Punkte DECANTER: *"This has a lovely intensity of quince, citrus and bright stone fruits, with a very attractive balancing acidity. The aromatics are not quite as sharp as in 2001 or 2007, but it has a lovely richness to it, more like the 2009 vintage. They suffered 30% frost here. Picking took place between 25-28 September, and 6-13 October - by which point the botrytis had really got going and the temperature had reached 25°C. 60% of production went into the grand vin. 135g/l residual sugar, 3.83pH. Drinking Window 2020 – 2036"*
- 17 Punkte JANCIS ROBINSON: *"Sauternes. 80% Sémillon, 20% Sauvignon. RS 135 g/l, TA (sulphuric) 3.9 g/l. Distinctive aroma in this line-up. Spiced lemon and orange. Really zesty. And that comes through on the palate too, with a rich, creamy honeyed finish. Deep in texture and flavour. Gorgeous orangey aftertaste."*

**CHATEAU RIEUSSEC** – Sauternes

Basispreis 55,80 Euro (74,40 €/l)

- 96-98 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"Blended of 83% Sémillon and 17% Sauvignon Blanc, the 2017 Rieussec gives up beautiful notes of orange marmalade, beeswax, acacia honey and yuzu with touches of lemon tart, grapefruit pastilles and musk perfume. The palate is full, rich and unctuous with incredible layers of citrus and honeyed fruits, finishing very long and perfumed."*
- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"This is very focused and an intense with so much spice and dried lemon character with cloves and dry mushroom too. Full body and very sweet yet finishes dry and spice. Harmonious and great."*
- 95-97 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Hugely rich, this wine has great intensity. Ripe mango and peach flavors boast a strong botrytis flavor, giving it full-bodied concentration. With its larger-than-life richness, it needs many years to calm down. Drink from 2025."*
- 96 Punkte MARKUS DEL MONEGO
- 95-97 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Rieussec is a killer Sauternes that shows the fresh, chiseled style of the vintage while still packing awesome fruit. Huge notes of orange blossom, honeyed citrus, mints and exotic flowers flow to a full-bodied, viscous 2017 that has beautiful purity, a clean, perfectly balanced texture, integrated acidity and a great finish. It's a rockstar effort."*
- 92-94 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Rieussec was affected by the frost, losing around 15% of the production although, it was more located in parcels that are designated for the dry white R de Rieussec. Eric Kohler told me that it was a relatively rapid picking. It has around 125gm/L residual sugar. It has a clean but slightly distant bouquet, does not really exude the richness that you expect from Sauternes. The palate is medium-bodied and more promising than the nose: a viscous opening, quite spicy and slightly Auslese in style. The acidity is well balanced and it becomes increasingly lively towards the lychee and fennel-tinged finish, as if compensating for the nose."*
- 94-97 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni: *"The 2017 Rieussec captures the natural intensity of the year, while also remaining faithful to the house style that is now favored by the estate. A high percentage of Sauvignon Blanc (17%) adds freshness and lift to the passionfruit, pineapple, mint and lemon confit flavors. Beautifully harmonious and persistent in the glass, the 2017 has so much to offer. In this tasting, it is simply tremendous."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

**CHATEAU SUAU 0,5 l** – Sauternes

Basispreis 16,70 Euro (33,40 €/l)

- 89-91 Punkte WINE ENTHUSIAST: *"Barrel Sample. Soft, already open and generous, this is a lightly textured and crisp wine. It has a bright character along with some tangy spice and pepper flavors. Drink from 2022."*

- 17 Punkte R. GABRIELS BORD. TOTAL (A. Kunz): *"Samtenes, mittelkräftiges Bouquet, gekochte Äpfel, Kreide, Limettencreme, Vanille. Ausgewogener, voller Gaumen mit kräftiger Süsse, cremiger, fein opulenter Struktur, guter Aromatik, feiner Säure, duftiger Abgang. Kann noch zulegen."*
- 94-96 Punkte JEB DUNNUCK: *"The 2017 Château Suau is a bombastic dessert wine that might just be the biggest, baddest sweet wine in the vintage. Offing up a huge nose of caramelized peach, orange blossom, and honey, it's fat, thick and opulent on the palate, yet holds it together with terrific purity and freshness. This primordial Barsac is going to need a cold cellar but is a beauty!"*

**CHATEAU SUDUIRAUT** – Sauternes

Basispreis 63,60 Euro (84,80 €/l)

- 97-98 Punkte JAMES SUCKLING: *"What a crazy Sauternes. The density and sweetness are amazing, yet at the same time it's fresh and bright with an inspirational energy and dryness at the end. Phenolic and textured."*
- 94-96 Punkte VINOUS Antonio Galloni (Neal Martin): *"The 2017 Suduiraut was picked via three tries, with 75% of the crop picked in the second tries from 4 to 15 October. The harvest finished on 19 October, one of the last in Sauternes and after Yquem. "We were touched by the frost but not in the top terroir," winemaker Pierre Montegut told me. It is matured in around 50% new oak. It has an expressive, harmonious bouquet with dried honey, white flowers and a touch of gripe water (a children's medicine for those in the United States. I have been informed there is no equivalent on the other side of the Atlantic). The palate is well balanced with a viscous opening, well judged acidity, plenty of botrytized fruit with a long, lightly spiced finish that feels so fresh and vital. This is a superb Suduiraut from Pierre Montegut and his team."*
- 93-95 Punkte Robert Parkers WINE ADVOCATE: *"The 2017 Suduiraut has a compelling brinness to the nose with a core of lemon curd, lime cordial and green mango with touches of musk perfume and chalk dust. The mouth is very rich and packed with decadent layers, with just enough freshness and great length."*
- 17,5 Punkte VINUM

Die Subskription bietet Ihnen die Möglichkeit, Sonderformate abfüllen zu lassen. Es kann passieren, dass sich Chateaux entscheiden, das kann auch zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt als bei der Rechnungsstellung durch uns an Sie als unseren Kunden sein, gewisse Sonderformate nicht abzufüllen. Daher gelten die Angebote zu den Sonderformaten unter Vorbehalt. Manche Weine werden von den Chateaux in Kartons verpackt, und nicht in Holzkisten. Bei Bestellungen, die von 12er Einheiten abweichen, besteht kein Anspruch auf das Originalgebinde. Wir sind jedoch sehr bemüht, Ihre Wünsche diesbezüglich zu erfüllen. Die Bestellungen von Einzelflaschen ist grundsätzlich nicht vorgesehen, in Einzelfällen sind jedoch Ausnahmen möglich (bitte nachfragen). Für die Sonderformate gelten die nachfolgenden Preisaufläge auf die Basispreise inklusive MwSt.:

Einheit	Flaschengröße	Preisberechnung pro Flasche
6er	0,75 l	Normalflasche + 0,65 €
3er	1,50 l	Normalflasche x 2 + 3,20 €
1er	3,00 l	Normalflasche x 4 + 40,00 €
1er	6,00 l	Normalflasche x 8 + 55,00 €
12er	0,375 l	Normalflasche / 2 + 1,00 €

Normalflasche = Preis pro Flasche in der 12er-Einheit

Josef Schreiblehner Gewerbepark Lindach B1 84489 Burghausen Tel: +49 172 8525272 josef@schreiblehner.com  
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