

Cellar Wines

Red

Margaux 2016

50

Declassified grapes from a bumper harvest at THE top estate in the appellation, but nobody is supposed to know where they come from. A deep garnet and purple, with a glorious rich fruit nose. A long finish. Made to be drunk young but it will improve for the each of the next ten years.

Chateau Pierhem, Pomerol 2000

75

100% Merlot delivering roundness with a velvet taste. In 2000. Pierre-Emmanuel Janoueix took over from his father and this was his first vintage. Elegant notes of wood, cocoa, flowers and delicate spices.

Chateau Talbot, St Julien 2003

90

Black olive tapenade intermixed with red and black currants, new saddle leather, liquorice and spice aromas. A medium-bodied, juicy, succulent, fully mature 2003. 'There is no reason to defer your gratification any longer' says Robert Parker. A marvellous Grand Cru Classé perfect for drinking now.

Volnay Les Grands Poisots Louis Boillot 2012

60

A very low yielding harvest resulted in a wine with deep fruit and wild damson flavours that needed at least five years to balance and mature into this lovely Volnay.

Rhone: Clos Des Papes 2004, Chateauneuf-du-Pape

80

Paul Avril is one of THE great makers of Rhone wines. Massive, long, Blackberry, cherry, liquorice, almost smokey; smooth, supple. Totally gorgeous but do let us decant it for twenty minutes to open it out.

Chateau De Beaucastel Red 2005

100

This might have breached the £100 mark but is a magnificent wine. Very rich fruit with both plum and red berry and spicy hints, earthy, lots of structure. This wine will be great in a decade, but ours will be long gone by then. Do give us time to decant. **Haut Batailey, Paulillac, 2010**

85

A great year that is time to start opening. Give us 30 minutes' notice to let this open and allow the fruits to balance the cedar, spice-box tannins. This will still be drinking well in 15 years but life's too short.

Languedoc: Mas de Daumas Gassac 2012 (75cl/magnum)

60/120

Described as the 'Lafite of the Languedoc'. Generous intense bouquet of dark fruits, blackcurrant, with spicy notes. Harmonious palate, fruits, good tannins, elegant finish. Decant if at all possible.

Mercurey 1er Cr Naugues, Charton, 2017

55

A rich and fleshy wine from this deep clay vineyard with generous, full spicy flavours. Typical of the area in all but price.

Argentina: Michel Torino Altimus Malbec 2015

55

61% Malbec, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Cabernet Franc. This is made high in the Andes and is MASSIVE. Without cheese or red meat, the fruit, oak and alcohol may overwhelm the delicate drinker.

White, Sweet & Sparkling

Clos Des Papes White 2004

110

These whites age beautifully with that edge of oxidisation that adds layers to flavour to the honey and apricot fruitiness and the stone and almond that emerge with age. Needs opening for at least half an hour.

Au Bon Climat, Santa Barbara County, California 2017

50

One of our favourite wines and truly a fantastic example of a great chardonnay. Creamy & buttery taste with a well rounded fruit flavour, this is a wine to be enjoyed. Goes well with poultry dishes.

Chassagne Montrachet Les Ensegnieres, Colin 2015

70

This property neighbours Batard Montrachet and has some of the volume and power of its more celebrated neighbour. Chiselled and nutty with a long finish

Sweet Bordeaux: Sauternes 2016 (1/2 bottle)

30

Declassified grapes from the best Chateau in Sauternes. A golden hue of aromatic exotic fruit and citrus flavours. Complex, round and well balanced with a long and lingering finish that shows off it's immense pedigree. Lovely drinking now, it will be truly special in 15 years but we won't be waiting that long.

Nyetimber NV (1/2 bottle)

30

In the opinion of many, the best maker of English fizz. This has the classic blend of citrus with brioche and a floral nose that has achieved a mature balance in its four years in bottle.