Our Bordeaux team has just returned from a wonderful trip to taste the 2021 vintage en primeur. Being back in France for en primeur brought a welcome sense of normalcy after two years without it, and it was invigorating to connect with the producers and the places that we love so much. We came back full of enthusiasm for these wines and what we do. You cannot beat Bordeaux for the combination of complexity, elegance, power, and longevity that the wines provide. Our newsletter lands at a time when we’ve got a wealth of such wines to offer you on pre-arrival. As they make their way to us, you’ve got a chance to snag them before they’re gone.

Even better: there are many good things you can currently find on our shelves. We’ll start this guide with our in-stock bottles, and close it out with several pages devoted to pre-arrivals on the horizon. Prices for the 2021 campaign are just starting to trickle out, and we’ll be publishing a vintage report soon.

We’re also happy to be welcoming back Bordeaux producers to San Francisco for the Union des Grands Crus tasting in June after a two-year pause. Stay tuned—there’s much in store for fellow Bordeaux lovers.

Bordeaux Is Our Bread and Butter

By Clyde Beffa, Bordeaux Buyer and Co-Owner

Our Bordeaux team has just returned from a wonderful trip to taste the 2021 vintage en primeur. Being back in France for en primeur brought a welcome sense of normalcy after two years without it, and it was invigorating to connect with the producers and the places that we love so much. We came back full of enthusiasm for these wines and what we do. You cannot beat Bordeaux for the combination of complexity, elegance, power, and longevity that the wines provide. Our newsletter lands at a time when we’ve got a wealth of such wines to offer you on

A Tribute to Steve Bearden

Steve Bearden: Dec 9, 1958 to May 11, 2022

I am very sad to report that K&L lost a hall of famer of over 20 years when Steve passed away in May. I lost a good friend, colleague, and great Bordeaux aficionado. In all of the years of K&L (1976–2022+) I rank Steve in the top five wine tasters—I would always ask for his opinion on wines I was not sure about. I remember Steve on his first Bordeaux trip with me and the K&L gang back in 2006. He was a vegetarian then—and Bordeaux meals in those days were NOT conducive to vegetarians. In fact in 2006 foie gras was served to us at almost every meal! From Bordeaux we went south to the Rhône Valley, and the first meal served with our longtime friends at Château Montfaucon featured a huge pan of fresh green beans—Steve ate 80% of the beans! Steve will be sorely missed by the San Francisco staff and all of the K&L people who came into contact with him. I know I will never forget him.
2018 Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc $39.99 94WE 93JS 91DC

2016 Les Allies de Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc $2.49 I love Cantemerle and their second wine, Allies. Philippe Daubrière has made Cantemerle a château to watch and buy. Unfortunately, Mr. Daubrière has retired (they do that too young in France). The 2016 is ready to drink with proper decanting. The 2018 is for your cellar and will age well for 10–15 years.

2010 Haut-Bergery, Pessac-Léognan $44.99 92–93JS 92WS 92WS 90–92WE 91IWC

We carry several vintages of this fine property; 92 points Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate: “From Helene Garcin, this blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot displays classic tobacco leaf and smoky barbecue notes along with rich black currants and crushed rocks in a medium to full-bodied, seductive, attractively upfront style. It is a sleeper of the vintage. (RP) (2/20)***

2016 La Dame de Montrose, St-Estéphe $44.99 93ID 93JS 93WN 92DC 92WS 91IWC Now that Montrose has joined the elite group of very expensive Bordeaux, many of us turn to their fine second wine. 95 points Jeb Dunnuck: “The 2016 Dame de Montrose is also gorgeous, and the second wines of Bordeaux continue to gain in quality.”

2018 Siran, Margaux 12-Pack in OWC $479.00 95WE 93JS 93WN 92JS 92JD 92ID How can you not like Siran and its owner Édouard Miailhe? Year after year they crank out lots of bottles of top quality Bordeaux. 95 points Wine Enthusiast: “From an estate in the southern part of Margaux, this wine has just the right mix of rich tannins and taut blackcurrant flavors to give upfront freshness and potential for part of Margaux, this wine has just the right mix of rich tannins and potential for future aging.”

2015 Corbin, St-Emilion $44.99 95ID 93JS 92WS 91WS 91DC I tasted the 2018 Soutard with Steve Bearden last year, and we both enjoyed it. This wine from the Calon Segur team and drinking perfectly now! Black cherry fruit, hint of tabacco, soft tannins, and a little spicy oak.

2018 Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac, 1.5L 96DC 98JD 98WE 97JS 96JS 94WN 94WE 90–92WE 91IWC

This estate made a stunning 2017, and I continue to love this wine. A typical blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Château Tour St-Christophe has remarkable purity in its black raspberry and blueberry fruits as well as complex spice, cedary, violet, spring flower, and cedar herb aromas and flavors. Possessing medium to full-bodied richness, incredible tannins, and flawless balance.

2016 Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Pauillac $59.99 97JS 97WN 96DC 94WA 94WS 94WE

1997 Léoville Barton, St. Julien 375ml $24.99 The 1997 half bottles are delicious, and I have a case in my cellar. Still lively and kicking., while the 2018 is beginning to be celled.

2017 Tour St-Christophe, St-Emilion 1.5L $79.99 95JD 93JS 93WN 92WA For the past five years this has been our biggest seller in terms of bottles sold on pre-arrival. 95 points Jeb Dunnuck: “This estate was musing a stunning 2017, and I continue to love this wine. A typical blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the 2017 Château Tour St-Christophe has remarkable purity in its black raspberry and blueberry fruits as well as complex spice, cedary, violet, spring flower, and cedar herb aromas and flavors. Possessing medium to full-bodied richness, incredible tannins, and flawless balance.”

2016 Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Pauillac $89.99 96WN 95DC 95WS 94JS 93JD 93JS 92WA 91ID

This property is the Rodney Dangerfield of Bordeaux—it never gets any press. But, it is growing and is a recent property that needs to be watched! 90-92 points James Suckling: “A purity of fruit here with plum and dark chocolate undertones. Spices and toast are tart as well. Full body, with ultra-fine tannins and a long, long finish. Very fine indeed. Fit, fruity and reserved. Superb. Try in 2020.”

2012 Pichon Lalande, Pauillac $119.00 95JS 94WN 94WE 92JS 91ID

This Fifth Growth is just outside the border of St-Julien next to Chateau Lagrange. This wine, like most great 2012s, has great aromatics and freshness and is still so young! Framed by dark blackberry fruit, it’s a strong wine that cut right through the BBQ pork ribs I served it with. It’s so fantastic that it could very well be mistaken for a famous Second Growth in St-Julien!

2016 Fleur Cardinale, St-Emilion $54.99 95DC 93JS 94WS 93WA 92WS 92WE 96JS

This wine is still young, but the flashy, ripe Merlot is hard not to love even now! There are some exciting times right now at Château Suduiraut and Pichon-Longueville! When you meet people in the wine trade who absolutely love wine, all wine, as much as you do, it creates special relationships. Three of these people I’ve connected with over the years are Pierre Montégut, the technical director at Suduiraut; Jean-René Matignon, same position at Château Pichon-Longueville; and Christian Seely, director of the AXA estates. After 35 years of age, Jean-René will retire, and Pierre will take the helm. Congratulations on your great work gentleman!

On my few days off in Bordeaux I always try to get to Suduiraut and taste with Pierre. For years now he has been passionate about the quality and future of dry whites from the Suduiraut region, and we are now seeing these wines selling well in the marketplace.

2020 Blanc Sec de Suduiraut, Bordeaux $16.99 93DC 91WN 89–91WA is a fine example of this. The wine is strong and has good drive with texture from the Simillion and bright citrus notes from the Sauvignon Blanc. The best part of this classy wine is the price—$16.99!!!

Of course, Pierre’s primary focus is the famous sweet wine, and we are thrilled to offer two fabulous vintages, and who better to ask about his “children” than Pierre! Here is his personal perspective.

2005 Suduiraut, Sauternes 37ml $39.95 93JS 97WN 96JS 93WA 92WE Pierre’s comments: “Quite exceptional. Very nice growing season, with no problem with moldy or other pathogens. Very little rain in the season—just 650mm—but we always seemed to get a few showers when necessary! Wonderful weather during harvest and so a very concentrated wine, very opulent. Our focus was to keep the balance. During the blending, we only kept the very old vines for the Grand Vin. The result was only 35% of Château Suduiraut! It is now ready to be appreciated, with the beginning of the arrival of secondary aromas. Huge potential to age.” My comments: “Tons of flavors, honey, caramel, apricot, pear and nutty elements.”

2011 Suduiraut, Sauternes 37ml $34.99 96JS 96WS 95JS 91WE 96GW 93WE 92WE Pierre’s comments: “The growing season was advanced at every stage of the vine. Hot and dry winter, the same for spring, and so we were two weeks in advanced at the beginning. We had a very good —intensive treatments, only organic products, and not too many high temperatures during the summer. The vintage remained early, and I had to stop my holidays to start the harvest for the dry wine in August. Dry in August and sweet in September—we finished harvest when we usually start! Normally, such an early harvest year is always rich and round, but, thanks to the cool climate of the year, we had a nice level of acidity in the wines. Another rich wine, still young, a little more exotic for me than 2005. My comment: “Outstanding. So young. This is topical and fresh!”

See you in Sauternes! Cheers and go Giants!
Jacques’ Weeknight Wines by Jacques Moreira, Bordeaux Specialist

It goes without saying that Bordeaux is one of the most prestigious wine regions of the world, with blue chips like Latour, Margaux, and Petrus being the stuff that dreams are made of. Also, equally undeniable is the fact that to mere mortals—like me—one all that dreaming is over, we appreciate a good glass of wine here and there. What are we to do then, with a limited budget and an unquenchable thirst? Not to worry. I’ve put a list together with choices that not only fit nicely on anyone’s weekly wine allotment, but also have a variety of styles and affordability. For any day of the week, dinner parties or a duo.

2019 Belgrave, Médoc $12.99 Let’s start with this small property, all the way up at the northern tip of the Médoc. One thing to note is that it contains all four red grape varieties allowed in Bordeaux. The inclusion of Petit Verdot and Malbec provides a nice spiciness and a markedly tannic structure. This is ripe, the price is right, and the wine is just very well with anything you would put together for a quick dinner.

2019 Preludes de Haut Peyrat, Côtes de Bordeaux $14.99 Located in a beautiful terroir where the vines are surrounded by forest, meadows, sheep, horses, and beehives, Isabelle and Didier Gil work with a tremendous environmentally conscious approach. In fact, the estate has achieved the highest level of “High Environmental Value” (HEV) certification, which is no small feat in Bordeaux. The Preludes is all about its juicy Merlot fruit, framed by the structure of the Cabernet Sauvignon planted on limestone soils, which resemble those in the southern Rhône valley, Châteauneuf and Sancerre. The wine offers plenty of blue fruit, cassis notes with a distinct dusty minerality. It is very pleasant right now, with no need to age. It will appeal to all those seeking a ready-to-drink, yet intriguing wine.

2018 de Bernard “Latourq” Bordeaux Supérieur $24.99 A Bordeaux like no other, starting with a surprisingly shaped bottle that looks more like a Rhône or a Loire bottle? Coincidence? Perhaps not. This small family-owned château, located in the heart of the Entre-Deux-Mers appellation, made a point in bottling this unique cuvée, based on Cabernet Sauvignon planted on limestone soils, which resemble those in the southern Rhône valley, Châteauneuf and Sancerre. The wine offers plenty of blue fruit, cassis notes with a distinct dusty minerality. It is very pleasant right now, with no need to age. It will appeal to all those seeking a ready-to-drink, yet intriguing wine.

2018 Arnauld, Haut-Médoc $29.99 93DC 92S 92V 93W A recent addition to the fantastic Angelus portfolio, Tempo d’Angelus is a wine that, even though it is meant to be drunk in its youth, is involved in fine and irresistible charm. The whole experience is one of a velvety, pleasing sensation. An incredibly well-made wine, with endless pairing possibilities.

2018 Soutard, St-Emilion $59.99 97JD 95-95WA 94VN 90WE 95DC 92JS The 2018 is one of the best vintages I have tasted from Soutard, a Grand Cru Classé estate in St-Emilion. The wine is rich, showing plenty of fruit, ripe tannin structure, and freshness throughout. This is one for the cellar for sure. I would even advise to seek out bottles in magnum format. It’s that good.

2018 Crabbéty, Graves $17.99 90WE 90WS One of the top wines of the appellation. It is starting to drink well now, showing a rich cocoa palate, along with the elegant earthy note we expect from a Bordeaux. The quality of its fruit and structure indicate that this bottle could stay in the cellars for a while.

2019 Tempo d’Angelus, St-Emilion $19.99 95S 91DC A recent addition to the fantastic Angelus portfolio, Tempo d’Angelus is a wine that, even though it is meant to be drunk in its youth, is involved in fine and irresistible charm. The whole experience is one of a velvety, pleasing sensation. An incredibly well-made wine, with endless pairing possibilities.

2019 Réspide-Méville, Graves $27.99 Obviously the product of an excellent vintage, the 2019 Réspide-Méville has an effusively inviting bouquet which offers the full spectrum of fruit flavors: blueberries, blueberries, raspberries, with underlying graphite mineral and subtle toast and herbs. The wine has a full-bodied, satisfying texture full of dark fruits nuanced by earthy mineral and baking spice. Still just a baby, I can’t wait to see how this develops over the years.

2018 Virginie Thunevin, Bordeaux Rouge $13.49 Named after the daughter of Martine and Jean-Luc Thunevin (owners of the famed Château Valandraud in St-Emilion), this is 100% warm-vintage Merlot with a plaster and juicy texture full of silky tannins; strawberry and black cherry fruit, and a subtle yet intriguing spicy-toasty edge from a small percentage of new-oak aging. This has no equal in the store in terms of price-to-quality value for a juicy bottle of great Merlot.

2016 Clos Grangeneuve, Côtes de Bordeaux $16.99 This great value hail from the far eastern reaches of the Bordeaux appellation, from an area known as St. Foye. It is a classic Right Bank blend of 65% Merlot and 35% Cabernet Franc. The beautiful conditions of the 2016 vintage have imparted a great balance between bright, pure cherry fruit, pepper and smoky notes, and savory landsin and toast. A lot of intriguing flavors here for the price, not to mention downright delicious drinkability.

2015 La Salle de Poujeaux, Moulis $19.99 It was excited to try this second label from one of S&C’s favorite Left Bank châteaux for value, Château Poujeaux. 2015 was a warm, generous vintage in Bordeaux leading to incredible wines in the second-label category, and the Salle delivers! Heady aromas of red currents, licorice, cedar, minerals, and smoke waft from the glass. Its rich textures glides over the palate like silk with wonderfully balancing acidity on the finish that makes this one of the most serious and drinkable red Bordeaux values under $20.

2015 Fonteau, Haut-Médoc $22.99 91WA Château Fonteau fell onto K&L’s radar with a delicious, inexpensive back vintage from 1998 that both our customers and staff adored! I’m glad we found this charmer, because the 2015 is going to go at least that distance—if not more! Comprising 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, it shows pretty red currant fruit, savory minerals, and a hint of earth. It was quite shocked at the precision, complexity, and balance for the price—no wonder it ages so well!

2015 Baron de Brane (Brane-Cantenac), Margaux $14.99 This is Margaux proper, made by producer Brane-Cantenac (Second Growth) from a superb vintage for under $35. Enough said, right? It shows incredible perfume, it has rich cherry and strawberry fruit with toast and spice, supple elegant tannins, and an impressively long finish. Stock is quickly dwindling on this gem, and for good reason. Don’t miss out.

2015 Bellevue Lafont, Listrac-Médoc $16.99 Owned by Château Fourcaud-Dupuy, this is a jaw-droppingly great wine from the vintage that keeps on giving—2015. Cola berry, blueberry, cherry, spice, and smoke are a few of the flavors you will find in this charmer. It has an open-knit, effusive texture while remaining fresh and vibrant, with the long finish typical of the vintage.

2015 Domaine des Justices Bordeaux Blanc $14.99 This is my new house white; it’s so utterly delicious and refreshing. Its bright, rich lemon-lime-tangerine fruit gives off next-level aromatics, with minerals, cream, and a tinge of tarragon in the mix. On the finish, it’s crisp and dry. This is the perfect wine to keep in the fridge for summertime.

2015 l’Arche, Sauternes 750ml $49.99 2015 l’Arche, Sauternes 375ml $24.99 94-96WA 91JS I’ve had it not to immediately fall in love with the bouquet on this warm-vintage Sauternes from Château l’Arche: honeyed apricots, pineapple, caramel and flowers. It is so lush, sweet and round on the palate, a bright poached-pear finish. Perfect with tres lches cake.

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The Star 2019s

The run of vintages from 2018 to 2020 are all very good, but both Clyde and Ryan Moses, Bordeaux Specialist, think that 2019 is the best of the trilogy. Each vintage saw ample sun that beautifully ripened their fruit, but the 2019 had a zippy freshness and bright acidity that led to vibrant, age-worthy wines. In fact, Clyde thinks vintage could be the best since 2010. And some “in the know” even compare it to the much-lauded 2009. Clyde’s notes below.

In Stock

2019 Bellegrave, Medusa $12.99 Get your palate warmed up with this beauty. Aromas of blackberries and charred bark. It’s medium-bodied, showing vanilla notes on finish.

2019 Maurevin Barton, Moulin $19.99 9DLC: “Delicate florality to this, smells wonderful, bursting with flowers and black fruits— incredibly welcoming. Lovely acidity on the palate, you can feel this is lovely with great energy and drive.”

2019 Tempo d’Angelas, St-Emilion $19.99 (Quite a good wine for 20 bucks) “A delicious, savoury red with blackcurrant, charred oak and cedar aromas and flavors. It’s medium-bodied with fine, round tannins. Fresh and bright. It opens at the end and becomes chewy and intense.”

2019 Pavillon de La Reine, Paulliac $24.99 Le Pavillon de La Reine is a five-star, luxury hotel tucked away in the heart of the Le Marais area of Paris. The wine is lush and sexy—so delicious.

2019 de France Blanc, Pessac-Léognan $29.99 WA: “The 2019 Blanc leaps from the glass with pronounced scents of spiced apples, fresh peaches, and white pepper. It is quite balanced and already drinking well.”

2019 Ormes de Pez, St-Emilion $39.99 92-94 VN 92-94 JD 92-94 WA: “Impressive spiced black and blue fruits, cedar pollen, flower incense, and a touch of chocolate emerge from the glass of this rich, full-bodied effort, which offers ample tannins, a solid core of fruit, and a great finish.”

2019 Fleur Cardinale, St-Emilion $38.99 93-93+ JD 93-95 WA 93-95+ 94DC 94-96+ VN: “The 2019 Fleur Cardinale is an incredible effort that is already drinking well. It offers black cherry notes. Soft, round tannins. A lovely wine.”

2019 Mallescot-St-Exupéry, Margaux 750ml $74.99 “This 2017 Mallescot-St-Exupéry has a well-defined bouquet, although it does not quite possess the intensity that it showed from barrel. Touches of licorice and allspice gently unfold with time. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, and lightly spiced with white pepper and clove toward the detailed, persistent finish. This is a serious Margaux that deserves time in bottle. (NM)”

2019 Domaine de Chevalier, Pessac-Léognan 750ml $74.99 “The 2019 is a complex, ethereally styled 2018, the ethereal nose of Asian spice and toasted oak. Powerful, blackberry flavors, with some red berry hints on the back palate. Big and powerful wine with lots of mineral at the back end. Very good!”

2019 Tour St-Émilion, St-Emilion 750ml $32.99 “The team at Tour St-Émilion is responsible for one of our favorite personal cellars. This wine is drinking well today.”

Pre-Arrival

2019 Palmer, St-Julien 750ml $359.99 6-Pack in OWC $1900.00 JS95-96 JD97-99 RP97-99 VN93-95 Tasted in California: Deep color, almost black. Lovely nose of Asian spice and toasted oak. Powerful, blackberry flavors, with some red berry hints on the back palate. Big and powerful wine with lots of mineral at the back end. Very good!”

Here Come the 2020s: Pre-Arrival

A mix of values and top wines. These wines were showing well on our recent Bordeaux tour in April. Clyde’s notes below.

2020 Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc 750ml $28.99

2020 Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc - 6 Pack in OWC $168.00 94-96 WE 93-94+ 93+ 92 DC 90-91 JD: “This property has been on a roll since Philippe Damintrine took over in the early 2000s. Seems like they hit the ball out of the park yearly. The 2020 has nice aromas of cassis and roses. Good midpalate flavors and a lingering finish.”

2020 Léoville-Barton, Margaux 750ml $31.99

2020 Léoville-Barton, Margaux - 6 Pack in OWC $185.00 93-95 JD 92-93+ 91+ VN93-95 Tasted in California: Deep color, almost black. Very elegant on the palate. Plenty of bright and balanced fruit on the long finish. Big and powerful wine with lots of mineral at the back end. Very very good.”

2020 Tour St-Émilion, St-Emilion 6-Pack in OWC $320.00 94-95+ JS94+ JD95-96 RP95-95 VN93-95+ E94-94+ WA92+ 92 DC. One of the better values in Bordeaux—almost every year. Wow—very perfumed aromas of black cherry and toasted oak. Blackberry fruit flavors. Vibrant wine that tastes so good now! Long finish—spicy back end. A must buy.

2020 Phélan-Ségur, St-Éstèphe 750ml $47.99

2020 Phélan-Ségur, St-Éstèphe - 6 Pack in OWC $285.00 95+ 96+ JS94 JD94+ CW94+ WE92+ 91-92+ Tasted to beat their fabulous 2019, but this 2020 comes close. Nice nose and full-bodied on the palate. Plenty of structure for the long haul.

2020 Brunoa-Ducru, St-Julien 750ml $47.99

2020 Brunoa-Ducru, St-Julien - 6 Pack in OWC $288.00 94-96 VN 93-94+ 92-94 JD93+ DC93 91-92 WA90+ 90 JD: “My team in April fell in love with all of the vintages from this fine property. Bright and lovely. Pretty, black cherry aromas. Very elegant on the palate. Plenty of bright acidity and cassis flavors. Great balance forward and ripe. Drink it young.

2020 Kirwan, Margaux 750ml $49.99

2020 Kirwan, Margaux - 6 Pack in OWC $295.00 94-95+ 92-94 JD92 DC92 91-93 WA91+ 91 VN92+ 90 WA90+ 90 JD: “Impressive spiced black and blue fruits, cedar pollen, flower incense, and a touch of chocolate emerge from the glass of this rich, full-bodied effort, which offers ample tannins, a solid core of fruit, and a great finish.”

2020 La Gaffelière, St-Emilion 750ml $65.00 95-97 JS95-97 JD95+ VN95+ 94+ DC94: “Lovely nose of Asian spice and toasted oak. Powerful, blackberry flavors, with some red berry hints on the back palate. Big and powerful wine with lots of mineral at the back end. Very good!”

The team at Tour St-Émilion is responsible for one of our favorite personal cellars. This wine is drinking well today.”

We are thrilled to be back for one of the year’s biggest tastings: the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux. Join us for one of the most comprehensive tastings in the world of fine wine, with over 80 producers slated to be pouring the 2019 vintage—one of exceptionally high quality and superb pricing. The only downsides of this celebrated year is that there haven’t been many chances to taste the vintage—until now! Please note: proof of vaccination is required, so please come prepared with your CDC card or digital vaccine record, plus photo ID. A limited amount of tickets are available, and only in advance of the event.

Our annual Union des Grands Crus tastings are the pinnacle of what we do at K&L. The美国总统以 vortex. Enjoy the show! To purchase: Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux (U G C). Website: $75.00 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022, 6:30PM-8:30PM City View Metreon in San Francisco "Proof of Vaccination Required"
2020s Continued...

roll—this is one of the top stars of the last four years. Perfect terroir. Dark color, intensely concentrated, velvety and explosive fruit that lingers on the finish. Hints of mocha and black cherry.

2020 Carillon de Angélus, St-Emilion $99.99 94-95JS 90-92WA
Perhaps the best Carillon I have ever tasted.

2020 Clinet, Pomerol 750ml $104.99
2020 Clinet, Pomerol 6-Pack in OWC $625.00 One of the top wines of the vintage. Intense, ripe blackberry jam on the nose. Nuances of blueberries on the palate. Plummy, luscious, sweet, and sexy. Long finish.

2020 Léoville-Poyferré, St-Julien 750ml $109.99
2020 Léoville-Poyferré, St-Julien 6-Pack in OWC $655.00 96-98WE 96-97JS 95-97JD 95-97WA 95-97VN 96DC One of the most sought after Bordeaux properties since the great 2018. This vintage is right up there with their 2018 and 2019.

2020 Lynch-Bages, Pauillac 750ml $114.99
2020 Lynch-Bages, Pauillac 6-Pack in OWC $685.00 98-99JS 96-98WA 96-98WE 95-97JD 95-97WA 95-97VN 96DC One of the top stars of the last four years. Perfect terroir.

2020 Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac 750ml $199.99
2020 Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac 6-Pack in OWC $1195.00 98-100JD 97-98JS 96-98VN 95-97WA 96DC So good it reminds me of the fabulous 1989, which is drinking perfectly now after 30+ years. The Merlot really shines. This will give any of the excellent vintages 1981-1990 a run for the money. So elegant, but with plenty of structure for a long celler life.

2020 Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac 750ml $239.99
Figeac, St-Emilion
2020 Pichon-Lalande, Pauillac 6-Pack in OWC $1425 97-99WE 97-98JS 99-100JD 96-98WA 96-98VN 96DC Pure and seamless. Crunchy high-toned fruit, lots of minerals, and a balanced yet firm finish. Excellent wine that should be included in your cellar selections.

2020 La Conseillante, Pomerol 750ml $239.99
2020 La Conseillante, Pomerol 6-Pack in OWC $1425 98-99JS 97-99WA 96-98JD 96-98VN 96DC 94-96WE 95-97WA 96DC They call this property the Burgundy of Bordeaux, but this wine is all Pomerol. Plummy, fat, and quite rich; fresh and lively—very focused on the palate. Sweet finish with tannins hidden by fruit.

2020 Ducru-Beaucaillou, St-Julien 750ml $244.99
2020 Ducru-Beaucaillou, St-Julien 6-Pack in OWC $1450.00 98-99JS 97-99JD 98DC 96-98WE 95-97WA Many people put this in the top five of the 2020 vintage. Unfortunately, we did not taste it.

2020 Palmer, Margaux 750ml $359.99
2020 Palmer, Margaux 6-Pack in OWC $2150 97-99WE 96-98VN 97DC Very dark in color, dense and powerful, yet with a wonderful elegance and sweetness of fruit. Alive and fresh with a lovely purity.

2020 Mouton Rothschild, Paulliac 750ml $659.99 99-100JS 97-99JD 97-99WA 98DC 96-98VN 95-97WE Toasty and perfumed with nearly exotic fruit in the aromas. Cassis and velvety red currant fruit in the mouth. Ripe fruit tannins that are integrated with the rest of the wine. This should age well but also show well early on in its life. (Trey Beffia)

2020 Ducru-Beaucaillou, St-Julien 6-Pack in OWC $1425 98-99JS 97-99WA 96-98JD 96-98VN 96DC
96-98WE 95-97JD 95-97WA 95-97VN 96DC 94-96WE 94-96VN With 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, this accounts for one of the lowest percentages of Cab in the final blend in recent memory. Toasty aromas with hints of coffee and chocolate in the mouth. This is a classic styled Lynch Bages that will age well. (Trey Beffia)

2020 Haut-Bailly, Pessac-Léognan 750ml $149.99
2020 Haut-Bailly, Pessac-Léognan 6-Pack in OWC $895.00 99-100JS 96-98JD 96-98WA 95-97WN Their new winery is fabulous, and their winemaking is second to none. Rich and toasty with a velvety core of dark cherry and blackberry fruit. Concentrated but very pure and seamless. Balanced and fresh.

2020 Lynch-Bages, Paulliac 750ml $139.99
2020 Lynch-Bages, Paulliac 6-Pack in OWC $830.00 98-99JS 96-98WE 95-97JD 96DC 94-96WA 94-96VN With 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, this accounts for one of the lowest percentages of Cab in the final blend in recent memory. Toasty aromas with hints of coffee and chocolate in the mouth. This is a classic styled Lynch Bages that will age well. (Trey Beffia)

2020 Pichon-Lalande, Paulliac 750ml $174.99
2020 Pichon-Lalande, Paulliac 6-Pack in OWC $1040.00 97-98JS 96-98JD 96-98WA 95-97VN 96DC A super wine with coffee and tobacco flavors, long on palate—a keeper. Jean-René makes great stuff at Baron—unfortunately he has retired as of this May 2022.