

WINE CULTURE

891 Bukit Timah Rd, Singapore 589638

Tel: 6463 3888 Fax: 6464 9080

BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2022

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* As some prices have not yet been released, this list is still subject to further amendments and updates.

VINTAGE 2022 REPORT

The 2022 vintage is an amplifier, foregrounding differences between sites, viticultural practices and winemaking choices. This is a vintage of remarkable concentration, energy and harmony; but far from forgiving mistakes, 2022 punished them, and the less-successful wines are jammy, astringent and rustic.

In 2022, by contrast, the vines were forced to adapt to warm, sunny, dry conditions from the beginning. Their reduced vegetative vigor meant that water losses by transpiration were mitigated, and below-average sized grapes with thick skins made more modest demands on the plants. Progressive agronomy paid off, too: soils richer in organic matter, protected by cover crops, retained more water and stayed cooler, helping the vines over the finish line. Thoughtful canopy management, without de-leafing, preserved grapes from sunburn, shading the fruiting zone and vineyard soils. The fact that the vineyards didn't exhibit yellowing leaves of defoliation at the moment of harvest is the most obvious proof that 2022 is very different from 2003. And unlike in 2003, Merlot performed superbly in 2022, delivering better yields than Cabernet Sauvignon and making an important contribution to blends, demonstrating that this variety has a bright future if farmed intelligently.

Progressive agronomy combined with precisely chosen harvest dates and judicious extraction delivered some of the most exciting red Bordeaux produced in the last two decades. In the great vintages of the 20th century, almost everyone made great or at least good wine; but 2022 was a vintage on a knife-edge, where only the most agile and adaptable succeeded.

The 2022 vintage marks a decisive departure from the old model of a great Bordeaux vintage, a year in which every estate produces great wines.

William Kelley, robertparker.com

The 2022s are some of the most memorable young wines I have ever tasted in Bordeaux. The best 2022s are magnificent, viscerally thrilling wines that show what is possible with thoughtful approaches to viticulture and winemaking. A number of properties at all levels made their best wines ever

In short, much of 2022 can be explained by four factors:

1. Heat and drought started early and were constants throughout the year, rather than shock events.
2. The end of the growing season saw cool nights, which is always beneficial in preserving freshness.
3. Technical Directors have become far more accustomed to dealing with very warm, dry years.
4. Knowhow in the vineyard and technology in the cellar have advanced meaningfully over the last twenty years, giving winemakers the tools to make decisions that were simply not available in the past.

Picking started very early, in mid-August for the whites and early September for the reds, which is to say 2-3 weeks earlier than normal. Yields were lower than usual, in some cases dramatically lower. This is especially true on the Left Bank, where gravelly, well-draining soils held on to moisture less well than the clay-limestone soils of the Right Bank. In general, yields on the Left Bank are lower than normal, while on the Right Bank, yields are, surprisingly, very much in line with historical norms.

- Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com

The 2022 shows that the vineyards of the region are resilient and adaptive enough to counterbalance the obvious effects of climate change, particularly the unrelenting increase in average day temperatures and volatile conditions of rain and drought, not to mention other calamities such as frost, hail and vine disease. It gives us hope that both man and nature can adapt to these circumstances and produce outstanding wines, both red and white.

Their 2022 wines can be flamboyant, fruity and tannic, yet they have a freshness and form that give them energy and vitality. They are exciting and not overly tiring to taste even though they are few months old and straight from barrel. I was worried they would be difficult young wines with burning alcohol and too much tannin, yet the young wines were dynamic and fascinating to evaluate as a wine taster regardless of whether they were made in a small chateau on the fringes of the region or great domains in key wine districts.

The 2022 vintage really is something unique, although one winemaker pointed out that there have been many days of hot weather in past summers, although it hadn't really happened on the same level as 2022 since the late 1940s, which produced the legendary vintages of 1947 and 1949. In tasting the young barrel samples, the best quality wines of 2022 had exceptional fruit and freshness as well as fine and intense tannins. A few were overdone, and I marked down some big names for wines with too much tannin and/or too much fruit. Perhaps cellar aging over the next 18 months will tame the wines, but most of the outstanding quality wines I tasted (there were a lot) already showed the impressive filigree and harmony I look for in new, classically structured Bordeaux.

My only concern – and that of a number of Bordeaux winemakers I spoke to – is how the wine will age in cellars. The reds already show such balance and harmony that I feel a sense of fragility in them. I hope winemakers don't overdo the aging with too much new wood or oxidative processes such as racking. Most winemakers I spoke to said that they would be more reductive in their aging and reduce the wines' exposure to oxygen, new wood, handling and sulfur.

James Suckling, jamesuckling.com

ST ESTEPHE	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Montrose	99-100	97-98	96-98		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Montrose is such a compelling wine that assigning it a bracketed score seems a mere formality. A brilliant terroir, impeccable viticulture, perfectly timed harvest dates and judicious extraction have aligned to deliver a monument in the making, reminiscent of a far purer, more precise, modern-day version of the 1990 vintage at this address. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cassis, violets, iris, pencil lead and cigar wrapper, it's full-bodied, deep and authoritative, its velvety attack segueing into a layered, elegantly muscular core that's framed by supple, powdery tannins, concluding with a long, resonant finish. A blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, this only confirms Montrose's status as a de facto first growth and unquestionably one of the contemporary Médoc's very greatest estates.				
Score: 99-100					
James Suckling	A very powerful and structured Montrose with steely tannins that run the length of the wine. It's compacted and muscular with an extremely long finish. Graphite and spices in the aftertaste. This should be terrific after the élevage. From organically grown grapes. 66% cabernet sauvignon, 25% merlot, 8% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Montrose is a brooding, powerful wine, as it so often is. Huge tannins wrap around a core of dark black fruit, chocolate, leather, spice, menthol and licorice. The new oak (60%) is not yet fully integrated, but then again, the 2022 is a baby. A bit of time in the glass helps the elements come together nicely. Readers will have to be exceptionally patient, as the 2022 is not likely to start drinking well until it is at least 15-20 years old.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Dame de Montrose	92-94	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	A second wine that would embarrass numerous classified growths, the 2022 La Dame de Montrose unfurls in the glass with aromas of blackberries, violets, rose petals, charcoal and loamy soil, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and fleshy palate of striking concentration, energy and dimension. Seamless and complete, it's a blend of 71% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon and the balance Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	Wonderful freshness and brightness to this with currants and red berries, as well as chocolate and hints of coffee. Full and layered with round tannins and a fresh and vivid finish. Lemon rind underneath it all. It has lots of length for being mostly merlot. 71% merlot, 23% cabernet sauvignon, 5% petit verdot, and 1% cabernet franc. From organically grown grapes.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 La Dame de Montrose is deep, pliant and rich. All of the intensity of this warm, very dry vintage comes through in the wine's sheer size and ripe, dark profile. Black cherry, plum, chocolate, licorice, spice and espresso are all amplified in this decidedly intense, concentrated La Dame. Qualitatively, there is little question this could have easily been a Grand Vin in a preceding generation. The 2022 is a stunning La Dame.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Calon Segur	96-98	95-96	91-93		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Calon-Ségur is another superb wine from this historic Saint-Estèphe third growth that began a comprehensive renaissance the better part of a decade ago. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of cassis and blackberries mingled with hints of fresh mint, burning embers, licorice and violets, it's medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated, with terrific depth at the core, supple tannins and a long, saline finish. The blend consists of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Vincent Millet observed that "when you tasted the Merlot, you were under the impression that you were tasting Cabernet."				
Score: 96-98					
James Suckling	A very juicy red with redcurrant and creme de cassis as well as hints of nutmeg and cloves. It's full and polished with very pretty tannins that show length and focus. Traditional and typical for Calon with the tannin structure. A little closed today. But serious structure.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	I tasted the 2022 Calon Ségur two times during my recent trip to Bordeaux. On both occasions it was forbiddingly tannic, much moreso than most wines of the year. Dark-toned fruit, gravel, cured meat, leather, spice and tobacco lend intensity, but the incisive nature of the tannins never settles down. Perhaps élevage will help. We will see. My impression is that the property really struggles in excessively hot years.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Marquis de Calon Segur	91-93	93-94	89-91		
Wines Advocate	One of several over-performing second wines in this vintage is the 2022 Le Marquis de Calon-Ségur, a medium to full-bodied, fleshy and seamless Saint-Estèphe redolent of minty berries, licorice and rose petals. Lively and penetrating, it punches above its weight.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	A racy and refined red with currants and crushed stone character as well as ovaltine. Medium-bodied. Polished and focused.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is a serious and potent second wine. Super-ripe red cherry, spice, leather, tobacco and cedar all race across the palate. All the natural richness of the year comes through in this decidedly potent, intense Saint-Estèphe. Today, the elevated alcohol is a bit distracting.				
Score: 89-91					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Cos D'Estournel	93-95	98-99	95-97		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Cos d'Estournel unwinds in the glass with aromas of sweet berries, plum liqueur and rich spices, followed by a full-bodied, broad-shouldered and muscular palate that's rich and structured, with a ripe core of fruit and chewy tannins. Harvest dates were relatively early this year, and maturation is occurring in only 50% new oak; yet the 2022's chunky, glass-staining style makes it Ducru Beaucaillou's only rival for the title of most extracted second growth of the Médoc.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Unique structure to this wine and very Cos with all the spices and dark fruits. Tobacco and cedar. It's starts off full-bodied and flavorful, but continues to unfold in an energetic and weightless way. Savory and primary. Al dente grapes here. Exciting and thought-provoking.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Cos d'Estournel is stunning. Rich and statuesque in bearing, the 2022 captures all the best this vintage had to offer. A wine of precision and power, the 2022 balances the intensity of the year but without veering into the realm of the exotic, as was the case in vintages such as 2005 and 2009. It marries ripeness and classical rigor in a style that is quite appealing. I imagine the 2022 will need a good 15-20 years to be at its finest. Harvest took place between September 7 and 23, exceptionally early.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Les Pagodes de Cos	88-91	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of rich berries, plums, spices and pencil shavings introduce the 2022 Les Pagodes de Cos, a medium to full-bodied, rich and muscular wine that's fleshy and extracted while remaining somewhat fresh and vibrant.				
Score: 88-91					
James Suckling	This is impressive, big and very structured at the beginning, but then it opens and spreads out with ultra-fine tannins that caress the palate. Really opens at the end and finds its weightless state. Serious. 50% cabernet sauvignon and 49% merlot, 1% cabernet franc.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Pagodes d'Estournel is a very sexy wine. Rich, ample and engaging, the 2022 makes a very strong opening impression. Black cherry, plum, licorice, spice and chocolate are front and center. This flashy, radiant Saint-Estèphe is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Firm, chocolatey tannins sustain the finish.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Ormes De Pez	90-92	93-94	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Exhibiting aromas of rich cassis, pencil shavings and petals, the 2022 Ormes de Pez is medium to full-bodied, broad and fleshy, with a deep core of fruit and plenty of powdery structuring tannin. It's a blend of 51% Merlot, 39% Cabernet Sauvignon and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	A juicy and fruity red with blackberry, black cherry and chocolate character. Full and round with freshness and intensity. Very spicy. Black olives, too. 51% merlot, 39% cabernet sauvignon, 8% cabernet franc and 2% petit verdot.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Ormes de Pez is bold, pungent and savory, in classic Saint-Estèphe style. Gravel, cured meats, spice and leather give the 2022 a good bit of aromatic and flavor complexity. Medium in body, with good depth, the 2022 has a ton to offer. This is a terrific showing. Tasted two times.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lafon Rochet	90-92	94-95	95-97		
Wines Advocate	The inaugural vintage for winemaker Christophe Congé, the 2022 Lafon-Rochet is an ambitiously styled blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc. Offering up aromas of crème de cassis, burning embers and loamy soil, it's medium to full-bodied, broad and velvety, with supple, generously extracted tannins and a rather lavish, demonstrative profile. It's a wine crafted to grab one's attention, but if élevage is kind to it, it may make my score seem conservative.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	This shows a terrific tannin backbone with blackcurrants and berries. Medium body. Solid fruit. Vivid. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 31% merlot and 4% cabernet franc.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Lafon-Rochet is fabulous. Once again, Lafon-Rochet is the most elegant wine in SaintEstèphe. There's a bit more richness and mid-palate intensity than in the past, likely a combination of the year and the approach of the new team headed by Technical Director Christophe Congé, who was formerly at Lafite-Rothschild. The 2022 signals a new era for the château that is likely to see a greater focus on selection and a slightly richer style. Even so, the signatures of Lafon-Rochet are evident. It's an exciting time.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Phélan Segur	91-93	96-97	91-94		
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with aromas of cherries, crème de cassis, sweet berries and spices, framed by creamy new oak, the 2022 Phélan Ségur is medium to full-bodied, rich and concentrated, with plenty of sweet fruit and chewy structuring tannin. It's a persuasive Saint-Estèphe in a more modern, extracted style.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Loads of fruit here. Energetic, with layers of tannins. Full-bodied. It builds at the end and opens like a butterfly. Hints of minerals and iron. Best ever? 56% merlot, 40% cabernet sauvignon, 2% cabernet franc and 2% petit verdot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Phélan Ségur is shaping up to be a gem. A burst of dark red/purplish fruit makes a strong opening statement. Sweet floral, spice and pomegranate caress the palate. The 2022 is immediately sensual and engaging. There is a bit of graininess in the tannin that is the only question mark here. This will be a fascinating wine to follow. Tasted three times.				
Score: 91-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lilian Ladouys	88-90	92-93	90-92		
Wines Advocate	A Merlot-dominant blend, the 2022 Lilian Ladouys offers up rich aromas of dark berries, violets, charcoal and rose petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, fleshy palate framed by rich, youthfully firm tannins that assert themselves on the finish. Impacted by hail and with a very elevated pH of 3.95, this is something of a blunt instrument.				
Score: 88-90					
James Suckling	Blackberries, blueberries and dark chocolate with some spice. Medium body. Firm and bright. Polished tannins. Very spicy with nutmeg and cloves at the end. 52% merlot, 40% cabernet sauvignon and 8% petit verdot.				
Score: 92-93					
Vinous	The 2022 Lilian Ladouys is a dense, powerful wine. In most vintages, Lilian Ladouys is a bit lighter, but in 2022 everything is amplified. A shift in parcels and the style of the year have resulted in a serious, punchy wine with real breadth. Savory and earthy notes add complexity.				
Score: 90-92					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

PAUILLAC	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Mouton Rothschild	96-99	98-99	96-98		
Wines Advocate	A brilliant wine that likely sits somewhere between the 2019 and 2020 in quality, the 2022 Mouton Rothschild is a blend of 92% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Merlot. Unwinding in the glass with complex aromas of minty cassis, cigar wrapper, violets and subtle hints of loamy soil, it's full-bodied, deep and concentrated, with a layered core of fruit and a fleshy, elegantly muscular profile. Broad-shouldered and seamless, it concludes with a long, resonant finish. This year the grand vin represents some 49% of the estate's production.				
Score: 96-99					
James Suckling	The Mouton-specific creme de cassis is all there. Al dente, too. The grapes must have been picked at near perfection. Depth and complexity. Black berries, earth, violets and other flowers. Full-bodied yet very hemmed-in with tight tannins, which are precise and polished. You can taste the grape skins and dust of the soil. The length is rather endless. 92% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Mouton Rothschild is a powerhouse. Inky, deep and explosive, the 2022 is a real head-turner. The combination of intense dark fruit, strong gravelly/mineral notes and imposing structure clearly bring to mind another great Mouton, and that is the 1986. In a word: magnificent. The blend is 92% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Merlot.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Petit Mouton	92-94	95-96	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Representing some 29% of the estate's production this year, the 2022 Le Petit Mouton shares much of the character of the grand vin, offering up a rich bouquet of cassis, dark berries, espresso roast and cigar wrapper, followed by a medium to full-bodied, velvety and layered palate that's fleshy and concentrated, with powdery tannins and an expansive finish.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	The Petit Mouton is more and more structured and intense. It's made for the cellar. Full to medium body. Lively and intense. Solid. 71% cabernet sauvignon, 19% merlot, 7% cabernet franc, and 3% petit verdot.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Petit Mouton de Mouton Rothschild is laced with sumptuous red-toned fruit, pomegranate, mint, blood orange and rose petal. Silky tannins wrap it all together in style. Le Petit Mouton captures the exotic side of the year nicely and yet retains terrific energy throughout.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lafite Rothschild	95-97+	99-100	96-98		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2022 Lafite Rothschild unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cassis, sweet soils tones, cigar box and lilac. Medium to full-bodied, it's the most tensile of the first growths this year, with a layered, concentrated but youthfully introverted mid-palate, lively acids and a long, saline finish. It checks in at a rather high pH of 3.85, which belies its incisive profile, from a harvest that extended from August 31 to September 24.				
Score: 95-97+					
James Suckling	A classical Lafite that reminds me of something like the 1986, with its blackcurrant and tobacco character with cedar and hazelnut, but it's so today with its purity and precision. It's really about being Lafite here. Terroir gives great elegance with strength.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous	The 2022 Lafite Rothschild is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage. All of the Lafite signatures are present, but what impresses most about the 2022 it its poise, its stature. Readers will find a regal, statuesque Lafite built for serious aging. There's tons of fruit and tannin, all masterfully put together. A modern-day classic.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Carruades Lafite	91-93	96-97	92-94		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of sweet cherries and berries mingled with hints of cedar box, loamy soil, warm spices, violets and orange zest introduce the 2022 Carruades de Lafite, a medium to full-bodied, bright and velvety blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Extremely perfumed with sweet tobacco and blackcurrants as well as cedar and dark chocolate. Aromatic. Medium-bodied with an intense center palate of blackcurrant, orange peel and peaches. Nervy. 53% cabernet sauvignon, 40% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Carruades de Lafite is a real showstopper. I don't remember tasting a Carruades quite like the 2022, a wine that combines the richness of the year with tons of supporting structure. Super-ripe red-fleshed fruit, blood orange, mint, cinnamon and rose petal all race across the palate, supported by bright citrus-driven acids that keep the flavors vibrant. I can't wait to see how this turns out.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Grand Puy Lacoste	95-97	95-96	92-94.5		\$100
Wines Advocate	A blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot, the 2022 Grand-Puy-Lacoste is a brilliant classic in the making, wafting from the glass with aromas of dark berries, violets and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated palate that exhibits beautiful structural refinement and purity of fruit. Classy and integrated, it is somewhat reminiscent of a modern-day and less forbiddingly structured version of this estate's brilliant 1982.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	A very structured and rich red with black berry and chocolate. Full-bodied with a solid core of fine tannins and a fresh and muscular finish. Dusty texture. Yet it remains bright and vivid. 3.55 pH. 79% cabernet sauvignon, 21% merlot.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Grand-Puy-Lacoste is a very pretty wine. Forward and quite showy, the 2022 comes across as a wine that will drink well with minimal cellaring. Succulent dark cherry, plum, leather, incense and dried herbs are nicely delineated. There's good complexity and depth, but it is the radiance of the year that is front and center. Hints of blood orange, pomegranate, spice and a pretty rose petal/violet note linger.				
Score: 92-94.5					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lynch Bages	93-96	98-99	95-97		
Wines Advocate	One of the vintage's most powerful, muscular wines is the 2022 Lynch-Bages, a full-bodied, broad-shouldered Pauillac that unfurls in the glass with aromas of cassis, cherries, mint, pencil shavings and petroleum jelly, framed by nicely integrated new oak. Liberally extracted, its deep core of fruit is underpinned by an imposing chassis of rich, powdery tannin and lively acids. Always rather forbidding from barrel, Lynch Bages always seems to come together in bottle, and the 2022 has the makings of another success for this address.				
Score: 93-96					
James Suckling	Wow. Blackcurrants, blueberries, blackberries and flowers. Full-bodied with beautifully integrated tannins that melt into the wine. Persistent and precise. A fantastic wine for the cellar. 66% cabernet sauvignon, 28% merlot, 3% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Lynch-Bages shows all the classic Lynch layers, but dialed up to the maximum. Rich, deep and explosive, the 2022 packs tremendous punch. Sweet dark cherry, spice, leather, menthol, licorice, plum and mocha all open with time in the glass. The tannins are imposing, and yet there is more than enough fruit to balance things out, at least to some degree. I expect the 2022 will need a decade to shed some of its tannin, but it is formidable, even in the early going. Impressive. Tasted two times. "This is the third time in history we are above 14% in alcohol, the others were 2018 and 2019," Jean-Charles Cazes explained.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Echo de Lynch Bages	89-91	93-94	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Revealing aromas of cassis, licorice, pipe tobacco and loamy soil, the 2022 Echo de Lynch-Bages is medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a deep core of fruit and plenty of chewy tannin. It shares much of the style of the grand vin this year, and it's one second wine that will reward a bit of patience.				
Score: 89-91					
James Suckling	Crushed stone and lead pencil with blackcurrants. Full-bodied. Chewy and flavorful. Structured. Baby Lynch. 64% cabernet sauvignon, 31% merlot and 5% cabernet franc.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Echo de Lynch Bages is a powerhouse. Super-ripe dark cherry, plum, spice, leather, dark chocolate, licorice and incense saturate the palate with notable richness. This is one of the most opulent, flamboyant Echos I can remember tasting. It will be interesting to see if some of the brooding intensity softens over time.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pichon Lalande	97-99	98-99	96-99		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is one wine where a comparison with this estate's magical 1982 doesn't appear to be far-fetched. Wafting from the glass with deep aromas of cassis, plums, violets, rose petals, tobacco leaf and pencil shavings, it's full-bodied, supple and fleshy, with a layered, seamless core of fruit that largely conceals its chassis of powdery structuring tannin. Concluding with a long, expansive and beautifully perfumed finish, it's a blend of 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc that has the potential to equal or even surpass the 2019 and 2016 vintages at this address. It checks in at a very classical 13.6% alcohol and a rather high pH of 3.80.				
Score: 97-99					
James Suckling	I love the aromatics here with botanicals as well as currants, blackberries and oranges. Full-bodied with incredible tannins that build on the palate with finesse and focus. Featherlight but always there. Stealth in structure. Very vertical. Savory. Superb. 78% cabernet sauvignon, 17% merlot and 5% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is magnificent. In recent years, Estate Director Nicolas Glumineau has pushed Pichon Comtesse to the limit. Maybe even a bit too far. But the 2022 is in the end a super-classic wine that emphasizes mid-weight structure, aromatic presence and persistence more than size. Sweet floral, savory and mineral accents run through a core of ripe, racy red-toned fruit. All the elements are so well balanced. Tasted four times.				
Score: 96-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pichon Baron	95-97	96-97	96-98		
Wines Advocate	An unusually gourmand, sensual wine from this estate, the 2022 Pichon-Longueville Baron bursts with aromas of crème de cassis, sweet dark berries, licorice, lilac and pencil shavings. On the palate, it's medium to full-bodied, layered and velvety, with excellent concentration and a rather rich, supple profile. A blend of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon and 19% Merlot, it's the result of sub-block by sub-block picking and cooler than usual fermentation temperatures.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	A very structured and racy PB with blackcurrant, stone and black cherry aromas and flavors. Medium to full body with racy and fine tannins that are precise and focused. Elegance with structure. 81% cabernet sauvignon and 19% merlot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Pichon Baron is marvelous. It continues a series of vintages that have been absolutely compelling. Bright red-toned fruit, spice, rose petal and blood orange lend considerable brightness throughout. More than anything else, the 2022 impresses with its precision and magnificent balance.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Clerc Milon	93-95	95-96	91-93		\$110
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Clerc Milon is beautiful, offering up aromas of cherries, raspberries and plums mingled with hints of pencil shavings and rose petals. Medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated, it's taut and lively, with a vibrant core of fruit framed by fine, chalky tannins. Its clay-limestone terroir lends it a distinctive signature that sets it apart from the rest of the portfolio.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Focused and bright with plenty of fruit but oranges and minerals in the mid-palate. Really fresh with a fresh bitterness.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Clerc Milon is plump, juicy and vibrant, with terrific energy and tons of class. Sumptuous black cherry, gravel, licorice, menthol and spice are beautifully dialed up in this decidedly flamboyant edition of Clerc Milon. A sample tasted in a group setting outside the château was far fresher than the wine I tasted at the estate, evidence that much of en primeur tasting is ridiculous. A sample presented at Mouton-Rothschild was five days old and oxidized. I rated it (86-88).				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Haut Batailley	91-93+	94-95	93-95		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot, the 2022 Haut-Batailley offers up aromas of sweet berries and plums mingled with licorice and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, firm and structured, it's a serious, rather muscular and extracted wine that begins to nod toward its stablemate Lynch Bages in style.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	Classy and very focused with blackberry and blackcurrant character. The tannins nicely melt into the wine with finesse and weightlessness. Elegant. 70% cabernet sauvignon and 30% merlot.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Haut-Batailley is a potent, brooding wine. Black cherry, gravel, cured meat, spice and leather infuse the 2022 with tons of mineral and savory intensity, backed by a formidable spine of tannin that gives the wine shape and vertical thrust. I imagine the 2022 will need the better part of a decade to come into its own. Tasted two times.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

D'Armailhac	92-94	96-97	89-91		
Wines Advocate	Deep aromas of raspberries, cherries, crushed mint and spices preface the 2022 d'Armailhac, a medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated wine that's deep, lively and seamless, framed by powdery tannins and concluding with a penetrating finish.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	This is like a baby Mouton this year with blackcurrant, flower, and orange aromas. Medium- to full-bodied with a tight and racy palate that shows persistence and verve. One to watch.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Armailhac is effusive and aromatic, with an extra kick of fruit intensity and richness from the warm, dry growing season, there's no austerity at all in this young Armailhac. Hints of white pepper, blood orange and mint lend further brilliance. This is very nicely done. A sample presented at MoutonRothschild was five days old and oxidized.				
Score: 89-91					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Duhart-Milon	91-93	95-96	92-94		\$106
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Duhart-Milon unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cedar box, loamy soil, herbs and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and velvety palate with a broad attack that segues into a lively, nicely concentrated core of fruit, concluding with a youthfully firm finish.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Very Pauillac in its blackcurrant, dark chocolate and walnut husk character. Full-bodied yet compacted. Wet earth, mushroom, earth, black tobacco. Fine and intense tannins. Fresh and complex. 78% cabernet sauvignon and 22% merlot.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Duhart-Milon is racy and explosive right out of the gate. Ripe dark cherry, plum, cloves, licorice, menthol and mocha fill out the layers in a deep, wonderfully expressive Duhart. Firm tannins extend the finish nicely. I imagine the 2022 will require at least a few years in bottle to be at its best, but it is pretty showy today. The blend is 78% Cabernet Sauvignon and 22% Merlot.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pibran	89-91	91-92	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Exhibiting aromas of dark berries, plums, petals and burning embers, the 2022 Pibran is medium to full-bodied, taut and lively, with bright acids and a chalky finish. It should flesh out nicely with further élevage.				
Score: 89-91					
James Suckling	Clear and structured Pibran with blackcurrants, dark cherries and orange peel aromas and flavors. Medium body. Firm finish. 55% merlot and 45% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 91-92					
Vinous	The 2022 Pibran is bright, punchy and full of character. Sweet red cherry, blood orange, cinnamon and tobacco abound. Bright acids perk up the finish. This mid-weight, Merlot-driven Pauillac offers tons of immediacy and allure. I imagine it will be very easy to drink upon release.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Grand Puy Ducasse	89-92	96-97			
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Grand-Puy-Ducasse exhibits notes of sweet plums and cherries mingled with licorice and spices. Medium to full-bodied, taut and chalky, with a sweet, concentrated core of fruit and a penetrating finish, it's a youthfully structured effort that concludes with a somewhat drying finish.				
Score: 89-92					
James Suckling	Beautiful texture here. Tannins are dense and compact but finely polished and silky. Seamless and even with length and succulence. Medium- to full-bodied. Power with elegance. Endless for this. Finally the best ever.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pontet Canet		99-100	95-97		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	What a finish on this Pontet-Canet. So much energy and brightness. It's full-bodied yet so tight and focused with superb fruit and transparency. It is racy and fine with super fine texture. It's like crushed cabernet sauvignon with cassis, tobacco and cigar box. Licorice and spices. Freshness of the seed. 57% cabernet sauvignon, 35% merlot, 4% cabernet franc, and 4% petit verdot.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous	The 2022 Pontet-Canet is a surprising wine. Usually much more opulent, especially in warm, dry years, the 2022 comes across as restrained and understated. It is a wine of linear intensity rather than size, marked by notable freshness and a feeling of tension and precision I don't recall seeing in the past. Clean mineral notes extend the finish effortlessly. I very much admire the precision and vibrancy here. Unforgettable.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Aile D'Argent Blanc	90-92	96-97			
Wines Advocate	Harvested in the month of August, the 2022 Aile d'Argent bursts with aromas of gooseberries, white flowers, lime zest and mango. Medium to full-bodied, satiny and enveloping, it's a bright, fleshy Sauvignon Blanc-dominant blend that concludes with a saline finish.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	So vibrant and minerally with salt and dried apple, peach and pears. Medium to full body. Creamy texture. Some phenolics. Dried fruit skin. Vivid acidity. 3.18 pH. 52% sauvignon blanc, 39% semillon, 8% sauvignon gris, and 1% muscadelle.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Haut Bages Libéral	93-95	96-97	93-96		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Haut-Bages-Libéral is lovely, bursting with aromas of blackberries and cherries mingled with notions of orange zest, rose petals and violets. Medium to full-bodied, fleshy and gourmand, with lively acids and a bright, chalky finish, its low pH of 3.54 reflects a decade of organic farming and the limestone subsoils that characterize this sector of Pauillac.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Lots of redcurrants and blackcurrants with some cassis as well as iron, tile, stone and hints of dried herbs. Full-bodied with lots of pretty structure and very juicy tannins. Lively and energetic. Exciting to taste. pH 3.54 and with 13.9% alcohol. From biodynamically grown grapes. From biodynamically grown grapes with Demeter certification.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Haut-Bages Libéral is shaping up to be a jewel. Bright and aromatic, with notable structure, the 2022 is beautifully put together. Red/purplish fruit, rose petal, mint and blood orange all race across the palate. A wine of dynamic energy and drive, Haut-Bages Libéral is super-impressive in this tasting. I can't wait to taste this from bottle. The blend is 87% Cabernet Sauvignon and 13% Merlot.				
Score: 93-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pedesclaux	89-91	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	Now certified organic, the 2022 Pedésclaux exhibits aromas of dark berries, plums and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, suave and refined palate that's a touch lean on the finish. As it fleshes out with élevage, it should come into better balance.				
Score: 89-91					
James Suckling	The pure cabernet character comes through clearly here with blackcurrants and blueberries, and flowers such as lavender and sandalwood. Medium- to full-bodied. Racy and polished tannins and a long, flavorful finish. 68% cabernet sauvignon, 22% merlot, 7% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot. From organically grown grapes.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Pédesclaux is terrific. It shows a level of finesse that has not always been present here. There's plenty of richness and power, but also better balance than in some years. Spice, leather, menthol, rose petal, licorice and a discreet touch of oak are beautifully woven together. This is a fine vintage for Pédesclaux.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

ST JULIEN	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Leoville Las Cases	98-100	99-100	98-100		
Wines Advocate	One of the wines of the vintage this year is the 2022 Léoville Las Cases, a monument in the making that combines unerring classicism with unusual sensuality and charm by the standards of this estate's sometimes youthfully forbidding wines. Exhibiting deep aromas of dark berries, violets, pencil lead, rose petals and tobacco leaf, it's full-bodied, deep and multidimensional, with terrific concentration, beautiful purity of fruit, abundant but refined tannins and a long, vibrant finish. On the several occasions that I tasted it, the 2022 was surprisingly open for a young Las Cases, but it wouldn't surprise me if it were to shut down after a few years in bottle. It's a blend of 83.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10.5% Cabernet Franc and 6% Merlot.				
Score: 98-100					
James Suckling	This shows no gravity. The tannins are totally melted in the wine and give it fantastic structure, but the texture is so fresh and vivid. Crushed stone. Cloves. Chinese spices. Great finish. Opening and flying away. Orange peel. Very special. Thought-provoking. Endless. 83.5% cabernet sauvignon, 10.5% cabernet franc and 6% merlot.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous	The 2022 Léoville Las Cases is stunning. Fine-grained and nuanced, the 2022 Las Cases is breathtaking. Red/purplish fruit, rose petals, lavender, spice and mocha open gradually but what impresses most about the 2022 is its sublime finesse. Silky, plush and exceptionally beautiful, the 2022 Las Cases is shaping up to be one of the wines of the year.				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Leoville Barton	96-97+	95-96	93-95		\$110
Wines Advocate	One of the stars of the Médoc and a wine likely to equal or surpass its 2019 and 2016 counterparts, the 2022 Léoville Barton unwinds in the glass with deep aromas of cassis, pencil shavings, spices and tobacco leaf, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and layered palate that's vibrant, pure and seamless, with beautifully classy tannins and a long, penetrating finish. The 2022 is a blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11.5% Merlot and 5.5% Cabernet Franc; and it's the first vintage produced in the estate's new winery, which more than doubled the number of vats, permitting sub-plot by sub-plot harvesting and vinification, along with a number of other technical improvements which translate into enhanced purity and precision.				
Score: 96-97+					
James Suckling	Very polished and poised with blackberry and blueberry character. Medium body with tight and focused tannin tension. Lively finish. Harmonious for the vintage.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Léoville Barton is a total model of classicism, even in this warm, dry year. All of the Léoville Barton signatures are present, even if the wine is still coming together. Blue/purplish fruit, lavender, spice, gravel and dried herbs open nicely in the glass, but it is the wine's energy and overall tension that I find most surprising. This is classic as classic gets. Not interested in making the richest or showiest wines, nor interested in jacking up prices as high as they can be. Readers will find a straightforward (in the best sense of the term) Saint-Julien that captures the best of what Bordeaux can be. Just enough of everything, but not too much of any one thing.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Leoville Poyferre	94-96	96-97	94-96		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Léoville Poyferré has turned out very nicely, offering up aromas of crème de cassis, cherries, violets and creamy new oak, followed by a medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy palate that's ripe but lively, with supple tannins and a long, vanillin-inflected finish. This year, the team began picking their Merlot comparatively early and didn't perform a saignée (tank bleed), given the natural concentration of the vintage, though it remains the most flamboyant and demonstrative of the three Léoville estates, seeing some 80% new oak with malolactic fermentation in barrique for the new barrels. It will be a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	A very solid LP with black berry, blackcurrant, crushed stone and lavender character. Full and really well structured with a linear length to it. Focused and so polished. Thoughtful. 58% cabernet sauvignon, 34% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 4% petit verdot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Léoville-Poyferré is unctuous, deep and super-expressive, but not at all over-done. There's tremendous energy driving through a core of red/purplish fruit. Deceptively medium in body, the 2022 is a potent, statuesque Léoville-Poyferré that will offer many years of exceptional drinking.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Ducru Beaucaillou	94-96	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	One of the Médoc's most powerful wines this year is the 2022 Ducru-Beaucaillou, a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon and 18% Merlot that opens in the glass with aromas of dark cherries and berries mingled with pencils shavings, vanilla pod and spices. Full-bodied, broad-shouldered and muscular, with a core of ripe but lively fruit underpinned by a chassis of powdery, liberally extracted tannin that asserts itself on the finish, it's a punchy, modern Saint-Julien reminiscent of a hypothetical blend of the 2018 and 2020.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	Some much creme de cassis and blackcurrant aromas and flavors here. Full-bodied with powerful tannins, yet fine and layered. Chewy. You can really feel the thick grape skins here. Excellent length. Tannins spread across the palate. Minerally and crushed stone.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Ducru-Beaucaillou is elegant and nuanced. Bright red/purplish fruit, rose petal, blood orange, mint and spice give the 2022 unusual brilliance. In most recent vintages, Ducru has been on the opulent side. The 2022, on the other hand, is strict and linear in construction, a wine that is more about persistence than size. Bright saline underpinnings extend the mid-palate into the striking, beaming finish. Harvest took place over four weeks, the longest ever, as opposed to the two weeks or so that is the norm. Yields were 30hL per hectare, down from the 35-37 typical in recent years.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Beychevelle	92-94	94-95	94-96		\$117
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cherries and cassis mingled with hints of violets and licorice, framed by creamy new oak, the 2022 Beychevelle is medium to full-bodied, velvety and layered, with a fleshy core of fruit framed by rich, unusually suave and polished tannins in the context of recent vintages at this address. It's a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, with a pH of 3.85, quite typical for this address.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	The tannins are very well-integrated with lovely bright fruit of currants and blackberries. Medium to full body. Vivid and pretty. 54% cabernet sauvignon, 42% merlot and 4% petit verdot.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Beychevelle is fabulous. In most recent vintages Beychevelle has been a flamboyant, extravagant Saint-Julien, but in 2022 is its surprisingly vibrant and fresh, almost shockingly so. Ripe red cherry/plum fruit, blood orange, rose petal and spice are all beautifully delineated. More than anything, I admire the wine's freshness and drive, qualities that have not often been present in recent vintages. That makes the 2022 one of my favorite recent vintages here. Tasted three times				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Langoa Barton	93-95+	96-97	91-93		\$60
Wines Advocate	The first vintage produced in the estate's new winery, which more than doubled the number of vats, permitting sub-plot by sub-plot vinification, the brilliant 2022 Langoa Barton offers up aromas of dark berries, cassis, violets and cigar wrapper, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and fleshy palate endowed with terrific depth and tension. Polished and penetrating, it should match or even surpass the 2019 and 2016 vintages, and it is sure to be one of the more intelligent purchases of the en primeur campaign.				
Score: 93-95+					
James Suckling	Deep fruit, dark spices and graphite with wide yet polished, linear tannins. Full-bodied and intense with depth and structure. Long and chalky at the end. Big wine.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Langoa Barton is vibrant and focused, as the best wines are in this vintage. Crushed raspberry, blood orange, mint, spice and rose petal are all beautifully delineated. There's a purity to the 2022 that is impossible to miss. I admire its precision and lovely minerality. Langoa could turn out to be one of the Sleepers of 2022, especially among the more affordable wines of the Left Bank.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Clos Du Marquis	93-95+	95-96			
Wines Advocate	"We've never seen such refined Cabernet Sauvignon at this property," says Jean-Hubert Delon of the 2022 Clos du Marquis, and the resulting wine is certainly unusually suave and expressive, bursting with aromas of cassis, plums, orange zest, violets and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with excellent concentration, supple tannins and a long, mouthwatering finish, it will likely offer a rather broad drinking window.				
Score: 93-95+					
James Suckling	Structured and fluffy with a blanket of fine tannins. Full-bodied yet agile and floating. Juicy at the end. Excellent finish. Lots of lead pencil and crushed stone at the end. 45.5% merlot, 44.5% cabernet sauvignon and 10% cabernet franc.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Gruaud Larose	94-96+		93-95		
Wines Advocate	The progress at this estate continues with the terrific 2022 Gruaud Larose, a blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc that unfurls in the glass with deep aromas of minty blackberries, violets and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, deep and layered, it's elegantly muscular, with a broad attack that segues into a concentrated mid-palate framed by supple, powdery tannins. Richer and more brooding than its 2020 and 2019 counterparts, it confirms Gruaud's return to the Saint-Julien elite. Around one-third of the production made it into the grand vin this year, the château's first with organic certification.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Gruaud-Larose is 83% Cabernet, the most Cabernet ever for the Grand Vin here. A huge, opulent wine, Gruaud-Larose offers up an exotic mélange of blackberry fruit, cloves, espresso, licorice, bittersweet chocolate and incense. This full-throttle Saint-Julien is not exactly subtle, but its balance is impeccable. Readers should expect an unctuous, dense wine with tons of concentration, a good deal of new oak and all the pedigree to hold it all together.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Talbot	93-95	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Talbot is especially impressive, and if it fulfills all its promise, it is likely to emerge as this large Saint-Julien property's most exciting wine since the 1980s. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of cherries, blackberries and cassis mingled with hints of violets and pencil lead, it's medium to full-bodied, velvety and concentrated, with a layered core of fruit, rich structuring tannins and a long, lively finish. It's a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot that's being matured in 60% new oak.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	The tannins really are integrated and fill out across the palate. The texture is so beautiful and refined. Medium- to full-bodied and crunchy, with lovely texture and refinement.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Talbot is another impressive effort from the château. Savory and nuanced, the 2022 is wonderfully energetic in the glass. Dried herbs, incense, tobacco, menthol and licorice all build in a potent, virile Saint-Julien that checks all the right boxes.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Saint Pierre	93-94+		93-95		
Wines Advocate	A particular success for this estate, the 2022 Saint-Pierre offers up aromas of cassis, licorice and violets, followed by a medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy palate that's lively and sapid, with powdery structuring tannins and a penetrating finish. Its tannic weight tempers the wine's sweetness of fruit to deliver a classy, nicely balanced result.				
Score: 93-94+					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Saint-Pierre (Saint-Julien) is superb. Dark, sumptuous and beautifully layered, Saint-Pierre is a wine of mystery. Inky dark fruit, lavender, licorice, plum, chocolate and gravel all build as the 2022 shows off its layered, somber personality. As always, Saint-Pierre packs a tremendous punch. It's all there in the 2022.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Branair Ducru	95-97	96-97	94-96		\$67
Wines Advocate	A brilliant wine that's the finest young vintage I've tasted at this Saint-Julien estate, the 2022 Branair-Ducru wafts from the glass with aromas of violets, blackberries, sweet cassis, licorice and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and multidimensional palate that's succulent, sapid and perfumed, framed by supple tannins and concluding with a long, mouthwatering finish. It's a blend of 60.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31.5% Merlot, 5.5% Cabernet Franc and 2.5% Petit Verdot that checks in at a healthy pH of 3.65. Why is it so good this year? In addition to the quality of the vintage, the new gravity-flow winery means fruit can be handled more gently, and picked more precisely, sub-block by sub-block, as the team now have fully 63 vats at their disposal, almost double their capacity through 2020. Given the Maroteaux family's sensible approach to pricing, this is likely to number among the must-purchase wines of the 2022 vintage, and it comes warmly recommended.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	The fine and intense tannins are very impressive because they fold beautifully into the wine, with blackcurrants, black cherries, hints of chocolate and hazelnuts. It's full-bodied with tight and focused fruit and a long and classy finish. Fantastic definition to this. Fresh. 60.5% cabernet sauvignon, 31.5% merlot, 5.5% cabernet franc, and 2.5% petit verdot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Branair-Ducru is a powerhouse, almost unnaturally so for this Saint-Julien, which is usually a more understated wine. A blast of dark plum fruit makes a pretty strong first impression. Licorice, cloves, spice, menthol and chocolate fill out the layers. Readers should expect a concentrated, virile Saint-Julien with compelling aromatic presence. In this warm, low-yielding vintage, Branair is quite the brooding powerhouse. It will be interesting to see if more finesse develops in time. Impressive. Tasted two times.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Gloria	91-93	94-95	91-93		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 9% Petit Verdot, the 2022 Gloria bursts with aromas of cherries, sweet berries, petals and spices, framed by a deft touch of creamy new oak. Medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a succulent, enveloping core of fruit and supple tannins, it's a gourmand but nicely balanced Saint-Julien that will offer a broad drinking window.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	A linear and very fine wine with blackberry, blueberry and currant character. Hints of cedar and stone. Medium to full body. Linear and fine finish. Very well done.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Gloria is terrific. Bold and punchy, Gloria offers all of its typical charms but with an extra kick of fruit richness. Sumptuous red/purplish fruit, blood orange, spice, mint and rose petals are nicely dialed up in this super-expressive, delicious Saint-Julien. Tasted two times.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lagrange	94-96+	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Lagrange is brilliant, ranking alongside the 2020, 2019 and 2016 as one of this over-performing estate's finest recent vintages. Revealing aromas of dark cherries, cassis, violets and pencil shavings, it's medium to full-bodied, velvety and layered, with a deep core of fruit, beautifully refined but youthfully assertive tannins and a long, mouthwatering finish. It's a blend of 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot with a very healthy pH of 3.63.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling	Solid Lagrange with blueberry and blackberry character. Medium body and a tannin structure that unfolds at the finish. Very well done.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Lagrange is a bold, racy wine. Dried herbs, tobacco, cedar, mint and incense give the 2022 striking aromatic nuance and vibrancy to match its mid-weight personality. The Cabernet is especially evident in this savory and punchy Saint-Julien that is showing very well today.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Croix Beaucaillou	90-92	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 La Croix de Beaucaillou opens in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cigar wrapper and fresh mint, framed by creamy new oak. Medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a deep core of fruit framed by chunky tannins, it's a blend of 66% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Petit Verdot.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	A chewy and polished red with blackberry and blueberry character. Full to medium body. Fine and tensioned. Excellent finish. Salty. Blackcurrants at the end. 66% merlot, 32% cabernet sauvignon, and 2% petit verdot.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou is super-expressive. The aromatics and tannin show strong Cabernet Sauvignon-inflections, but the blend actually favors Merlot in this vintage, as yields in the Cabernet were on the low side. This serious, potent Saint-Julien is going to need a bit of time to fully come together, but it is certainly impressive.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

MARGAUX	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Chateau Margaux	96-97+	95-96	97-99		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc, 2022 Château Margaux is one of the most powerful wines ever produced at this estate, wafting from the glass with aromas of crème de cassis, dark berries, violets, burning embers, smoked tea and exotic spices. Full-bodied, deep and layered, it's rich, velvety and seamless, with a bright core of fruit and a long, heady finish. With the highest analytical measure of tannins since 2010, and an alcohol level a touch above 14%, this is certainly a larger-scaled Château Margaux, yet at this early stage, everything appears to be kept in check.				
Score: 96-97+					
James Suckling	Very dark purple color with a ruby edge. So much crushed blackberry and blackcurrant with violets. Exuberant. Full-bodied and very tannic with incredible muscle. This is a thought-provoking wine. The biggest Margaux I have tasted in my career. Seems a little overdone for Margaux. 92% cabernet sauvignon, 6% merlot and 2% petit verdot.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Château Margaux is a total stunner. Ripe, opulent and explosive, the 2022 possesses tremendous depth and textural intensity from start to finish. There's a purity to the fruit that is just striking. The 2022 is a dark, unusually opulent Margaux, with a dense core of fruit, but a good deal of vibrancy to balance things out. Black cherry, lavender, spice and a kiss of new French oak build in the glass, but it is the wine's delineation and intensity that are most captivating. Vibrant saline notes linger on the seamless, supremely elegant finish. Unforgettable.				
Score: 97-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pavillon Du Margaux (Rouge)	92-94	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Pavillon Rouge is deep and perfumed, wafting from the glass with notions of cherries, raspberry preserve, lilac, violets and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, velvety and concentrated palate that's deep, rich and vibrant, with a tannic grain that resembles the grand vin this year. It represents just under a third of the estate's production.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	Rich and dense with lots of fruit and juiciness. Redcurrants, black berries, strawberries and orange peel on the nose. Full and layered with fine, velvety tannins and a juicy finish. Big presence.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Pavillon Rouge is a rich, sumptuous wine. A burst of red/purplish fruit, rose petal, lavender and blood orange makes a strong opening, followed by unexpectedly bright, saline notes that bring it all together on the mid-palate and finish. The Pavillon Rouge is an eye-opening wine that embodies the style of the year so eloquently. I especially admire the vibrancy here. The purity of the flavors and quality of the tannins really elevate the 2022.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pavillon Du Margaux (Blanc)	93-94	99-100	92-94		
Wines Advocate	An impressively vibrant wine for this warm vintage, the 2022 Pavillon Blanc offers up inviting aromas of sweet gooseberries, mango, lemongrass and pastry cream, followed by a medium to full-bodied, fleshy palate that's bright and nicely concentrated, concluding with a finish marked by elegantly mordant dry extract. Harvest for Sauvignon Blanc began on 18 August at Château Margaux.				
Score: 93-94					
James Suckling	This is an powerful white with superb density and phenolic muscle. It's full-bodied and really impressive. Opulent and rounded. Exotic and muscular. Great white. Feels like a great Montrachet. One for the cellar. 8,000 bottles made. pH 3.18.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous	On the palate, the 2022 Pavillon Blanc retains terrific freshness and is done in a style that lies somewhere in between more generous years such as 2018, 2019 and 2020, and the more saline years like 2017 and 2021. This is a very creamy, layered dry white. Here, too, I am struck by the wine's precision.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Palmer	95-97	98-99	96-98		
Wines Advocate	As is the case at neighbor Château Margaux, the 2022 Palmer is one of the most powerful wines this estate has ever produced. A blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, it offers up aromas of blackberries, burning embers, violets, iris and sweet soil tones, followed by a full-bodied, broad and expansive palate, its velvety attack segueing into a rich and layered core. Supple, seamless and concentrated, it checks in at 14.4% alcohol and a rather high pH of 3.79.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	So much class in the nose with a sophisticated kaleidoscope of dark fruit such as blackcurrants, and spices such as salt and pepper, as well as cloves and nutmeg. Full-bodied. Compacted and dense yet weightless. It opens beautifully. The tannins go on and on with wonderful presence. Salty undertones.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Palmer is a wine of sublime beauty and refinement. Silky, caressing and super-expressive, the 2022 is also one of the most surprising wines of the year in that it does not show the drought or heat of the growing season at all either in its flavor profile or feel. Succulent black cherry, plum, leather, licorice, spice and dried herbs lend notable complexity throughout. The 2022 starts off rather slow, and then really explodes on the back end. It is a magnificent wine in every way.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Malescot Saint-Exupery	93-95		92-94		
Wines Advocate	Offering up aromas of rich blackberries, cassis, sweet spices, pencil shavings and creamy new oak, the 2022 Malescot St. Exupery is medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a broad attack that segues into a layered core of expressive fruit that's framed by sweet, powdery tannins. A blend of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, this is one of the appellation's most flamboyant wines, but it retains good balance and boasts a healthy pH of 3.65.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Malescot Saint Exupéry is dense, powerful and voluptuous. Black cherry, mocha, espresso, licorice and chocolate are all amplified. In 2022, Malescot is quite the extrovert. These days Malescot is not as classic as it used to be, but this is a good showing, even if the alcohol comes through a touch.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Cantenac Brown	94-96	93-94	90-93		
Wines Advocate	A few years ago, this estate purchased 22 additional hectares in the heart of the plateau of Margaux, including old vine Cabernet Sauvignon that is now making an appreciable contribution to the blend, and that helps to explain why the 2022 Cantenac Brown is so good. Unwinding in the glass with notes of dark berries, plums, charcoal, pencil shavings and violets, it's medium to full-bodied, rich and elegantly muscular, with a layered core, refined tannins and a penetrating finish. The finest wine that José Sanfins has produced to date, the 2022 only improved during the several weeks I spent in Bordeaux. It's a blend of 69% Cabernet Sauvignon and 31% Merlot.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	A solid Margaux with creamy and fine tannins that spread across the palate. Medium-bodied, layered and already delicious. Hints of dried citrus at the end.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Cantenac Brown is a powerhouse. Dense and massively constituted, the 2022 stains the palate with inky black fruit, leather, dark chocolate, cloves and licorice. In this tasting, Cantenac Brown comes across as rather monolithic, with the radiance and very low yields of the year very much on display.				
Score: 90-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Giscours	94-96+	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	With the 2022 Giscours, this estate takes another step up, delivering a deep and characterful wine redolent of cherries, dark berries, violets, peony and forest floor. Medium to full-bodied, broad shouldered and layered, it's deep and elegantly muscular, with impressive concentration, abundant but refined tannins and a structural authority reminiscent of the great Giscours vintages of the 1970s. Why is it so good? There are many reasons, but one is the high proportion of old vines—almost 60% of the blend deriving from vines that are over 50 years old—in a vintage that favored vines with deep, well-established root systems. Another is the increasing precision of harvesting at this address: Giscours's old vines are frequently co-planted with younger replacements that have filled any gaps in the ranks over the years; so, blocks are now picked in two or three passages instead of all at once, with the younger vines picked first.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling	This is a big move forward for Giscours. Full-bodied yet agile and fresh with tannins that are precise and integrated, with great beauty and length. Well-structured and vivid. Extremely fine yet defined tannins, and then it opens like a butterfly.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Giscours is a regal, sophisticated wine. Succulent red cherry, blood orange, spice, menthol and rose petal lend notable vibrancy and freshness throughout. Most surprisingly, the 2022 remains light on its feet, especially for a wine made from such low yields in a warm, dry year. Over the last few years Giscours has been one of the most improved properties in the Médoc. The 2022 is another step in that direction. Sublime.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Marojallia		92-93	91-93		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A juicy and structured young Margaux with spice, berry and chocolate character. Medium body. Firm tannins and a savory finish.				
Score: 92-93					
Vinous	The 2022 Marojallia is packed with succulent red cherry, plum, mocha, spice, new leather and licorice. This flamboyant Margaux has much to offer in an unabashedly lush style.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Alter Ego De Palmer		91-93	96-97	93-95		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot, the 2022 Alter Ego de Palmer offers up aromas of cherries, wild berries and plums mingled with vine smoke and rose petals. Medium to full-bodied, deep and brooding, with a layered core of fruit, lively acids and rich, powdery tannins, it's a gourmand, voluptuous wine that will offer a broad drinking window.					
Score: 91-93						
James Suckling	The minerality and intensity to this wine is very impressive with blackberry and blue berry aromas and flavors. Salt and pepper. It's full and linear with a brightness and freshness. Compacted center palate.					
Score: 96-97						
Vinous	The 2022 Alter Ego is a total pleasure bomb. Ripe and sensual, with caressing tannins, the 2022 is exceptionally beautiful. Floral and spice top notes lend tons of aromatic presence. More than anything, though, I am so impressed with the wine's exceptional balance. Especially the tannins. Nothing in particular stands out, as the wine's balance is nothing short of magnificent. The 2022 is pure and total sensuality.					
Score: 93-95						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Prieure-Lichine	91-93	95-96	91-93		\$52
Wines Advocate	Offering up generous amounts of sweet berries, orange rind and licorice, the 2022 Prieuré-Lichine is medium to full-bodied, rich and layered, with a lively core of fruit that's framed by powdery tannins that assert themselves on the youthfully firm finish. This heavily morcellated estate (amounting to some 125 different parcels) continues to benefit from a more rigorous selection and better attention to detail regarding harvest dates.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Such beautiful tannins here that are refined and beautiful and bring you deep into the medium to full body. Currants and berries. Refined.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Prieuré-Lichine is classy and polished, with lovely aromatic brightness to match its silky, midweight personality. Crushed flowers, mint, blood orange and spice are nicely delineated. There's good up-front richness, but then a bit less intensity through the mid-palate and finish. Tasted two times.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Rauzan Segla	96-97	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Rauzan-Ségla is a beautifully sensual, charming wine, bursting with aromas of cherries, dark berries and plums mingled with hints of violets, sweet loamy soil and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, deep and layered, it's fleshy and enveloping, with an ample core of vibrant fruit, supple tannins and a long, succulent finish. The 2022 is a blend of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot; and in 2022, the east-facing sides of the vines, which see the afternoon sun, were picked separately, along with anything that showed signs of stress.				
Score: 96-97					
James Suckling	The freshness and clarity of the fruit is really something with black currants and cherries. Brilliant. Full-bodied, layered and round with polished tannins. I like the intensity and focus with such precision and gorgeousness. Is this the 2016 plus more?				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Rauzan-Ségla is a rich, opulent wine that very much reflects the nature of this radiant, dry year. Super-ripe dark plum, cassis, chocolate, gravel, cloves and new leather build as the 2022 shows off its unabashedly opulent personality. Even with all of its intensity, the 2022 retains tons of persistence and energy. It's a fabulous wine in this tricky vintage. Tasted three times.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Du Tertre		92-94+	95-96	90-92		\$51
Wines Advocate	Score: 92-94+	The 2022 du Tertre unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, plums, licorice, vine smoke and petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and layered palate of uncommon depth and concentration that nevertheless retains all the estate's signature elegance. Polished and supple, it's a blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Cabernet Franc, 15% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, which more or less represents this estate's varietal breakdown after its extensive replanting program is complete. This looks likely to emerge as the finest du Tertre in several decades, and it is sure to be one of the better values of the en primeur campaign.				
James Suckling		Score: 95-96	This is really clear and bright. Medium- to full-bodied with a solid tannin structure. Tight layers of phenolics to this. Racy and long finish. Firm and focused. 57% cabernet sauvignon, 23% cabernet franc, 15% merlot and 5% petit verdot.			
Vinous	Score: 90-92		The 2022 du Tertre is packed with inky black fruit, gravel, incense, tobacco, licorice and chocolate. Opulent and intense to the core, the 2022 packs a serious punch. That comes through in tannins that are also pretty imposing.			
Wines Spectator		Score:				

Brane-Cantenac		95-97	96-97	95-97		
Wines Advocate	Score: 95-97	A blend of 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc, Carmenère and Petit Verdot, the 2022 Brane-Cantenac unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, crème de cassis, black truffles, loamy soil, burning embers and violets. Medium to full-bodied, deep and velvety, with a fleshy core of fruit, terrific concentration and lively acids, it concludes with a long, perfumed finish. This is a terrific 2022 that may rival or even surpass the 2019 if it realizes all its potential in bottle				
James Suckling		Score: 96-97	A long and very linear red for Margaux with intense freshness and energy. The cabernet sauvignon shows real clarity with blackcurrants and flowers. Crushed stone. Firm and racy with lots of lemon rind and intensity. 74% cabernet sauvignon, 23% merlot, 1% cabernet franc, 1% petit verdot and 1% carmenere.			
Vinous	Score: 95-97		The 2022 Brane-Cantenac is captivating. Aromatic, savory and layered, the 2022 is so alluring from the outset. The natural radiance of the year is very much on display, and yet there is nothing that is overdone about the 2022. Hints of blood orange, spice, rose petal and minerals open over time, offering stunning contrast to the sheer intensity of the fruit shaped by low yields and tiny berries. BraneCantenac is, in my view, one of the most under-the-radar wines on the Left Bank. The 2022 is a stunner.			
Wines Spectator		Score:				

Lascombes	86-89	93-94	90-92		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of oak, spices, overripe berries, graphite and pencil shavings stand out in this modern-styled, rather demonstrative 2022 Lascombes. Medium to full-bodied, chunky and over-extracted, the wine has a dense, rich, mouthfeel but a rather firm finish with prominent new-oak flavors.				
Score: 86-89					
James Suckling	A more refined and focused Lascombes with blackcurrant, graphite, stone and blueberry character. Medium body. Polished finish. Needs a little more at the finish to be in the big leagues.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Lascombes is a bold, sumptuous wine. Inky dark fruit, cloves, chocolate and copious French oak fill out the layers. Soft contours wrap it all together. As always, Lascombes is done in a flamboyant style. It will be interesting to see the direction new Estate Manager Axel Heinz takes when he assumes his post this summer. Tasted two times.				
Score: 90-92					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

D'Issan	93-95	96-97	93-95		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 D'Issan is a lovely wine that will delight Médoc purists, wafting from the glass with aromas of sweet berries, burning embers, violets and loamy soil. Medium to full-bodied, fleshy and layered, with velvety tannins and a deep core of vibrant fruit, it's a blend of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot. The estate is now equipped with a battery of 20-hectoliter tanks, permitting sub-plot by sub-plot harvesting this year.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	This is one hell of an Issan with blackberry, blackcurrant, and hazelnut aromas and flavors. Cherries. Cedar. Full and intense with tannins that are long and bright. Goes tight at the end, indicating greatness. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot, 2% cabernet franc, 2% malbec and 1% petit verdot.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 d'Issan is shaping up to be terrific. Dark and pliant, the 2022 captures all the intensity of the year in its super-concentrated Issan that has a ton of fruit intensity, but also the tannic spine to support it. Blue/purplish fruit, lavender, dried herbs and spice infuse the 2022 with tons of depth and pedigree.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Kirwan		90-92	94-95	90-92		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, the 2022 Kirwan exhibits aromas of dark berries, cassis, sweet spices, pencil shavings and creamy new oak, followed by a medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy palate that's unusually lively for the vintage, checking in at a pH of 3.55, a number that it would be impressive to attain on gravel soils in this vintage without acidification.					
Score: 90-92						
James Suckling	Deep, succulent fruit here with wide, velvety tannin structure. Polished and refined. Medium to full body. Structured and complex with a lingering finish.					
Score: 94-95						
Vinous	The 2022 Kirwan is plump, juicy and super-expressive, all of which will make it a fine choice for drinking with minimal cellaring. Succulent black cherry fruit, plum, spice and licorice are nicely pushed forward, framed by soft contours that add to its considerable charm.					
Score: 90-92						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						
Siran		90-92	95-96	93-95		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Siran is a real success, bursting with aromas of sweet berries, cassis, licorice and pencil shavings, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and fleshy palate. This charming, succulent Margaux is sure to be one of the commune's better value propositions.					
Score: 90-92						
James Suckling	Attractive berry fruit here with spices and orange peel undertones. Medium- to full-bodied, toned and steady with compact tannin structure. Deep. Long finish with stony minerality. Most structured yet fine Siran I have tasted for a long time.					
Score: 95-96						
Vinous	The 2022 Siran is one of the best wines I have tasted from the property. Silky, aromatic and light on its feet, Siran is exceptionally polished. Crushed red berry fruit, mint, chalk and white pepper all grace this exquisite Margaux. Superb.					
Score: 93-95						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

MEDOC	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Sociando Mallet	92-94		88-90		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of dark berries and plums mingled with hints of mint, violets and licorice introduce the 2022 Sociando-Mallet, a medium to full-bodied, supple and lively wine that's deep, fleshy and seamless, with powdery tannins that assert themselves with promising youthful grip on the finish. It's a blend of 63% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc. Readers who remember how this estate acquitted itself in years such as 2003 and 1990 will not be surprised by its quality in 2022.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Sociando-Mallet is a bit hard to read today. I very much admire the dynamic energy, which Sociando has in spades, but at the same time the tannins show some edginess that will need to resolve. Élevage will be critical, but it may not be enough to compensate for a vintage with hail damage and yields of just 21.5 hectoliters per hectare				
Score: 88-90					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Chasse Spleen	90-92+	93-94			\$42
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Chasse-Spleen was showing especially well, bursting with aromas of cassis and plums mingled with licorice and pencil shavings. Medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with levels of texture and mid-palate amplitude unusual at this address in recent years, this supple, charming Moulis should offer a broad drinking window.				
Score: 90-92+					
James Suckling	Firm and linear with medium to full body and chalky, slightly tight tannins. Hints of walnuts and dark berries at the end.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Potensac	89-91	94-95	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of dark berries, cigar wrapper and licorice introduce the 2022 Potensac, a medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy Médoc with a deep core of fruit and powdery structuring tannins. It's built along similar lines to the 2020.				
Score: 89-91					
James Suckling	Polished and refined with a deep core of ripe berries with walnut undertones. Medium- to full-bodied with firm, velvety tannins and a lingering finish. Deep and complex.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Potensac is super-expressive right out of the gate. Black cherry, plum, lavender, spice, and gravel are all beautifully delineated. Pliant and beautifully layered, the 2022 marries density and vibrancy to great effect. There's quite a bit of tannin, but also enough fruit to balance things out. The 2022 is a serious Potensac, that is for sure. Once again, Jean-Hubert Delon and his team made a Médoc that overdelivers big time.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Lagune	93-95	95-96	88-91		
Wines Advocate	Reminding me, like the 2019, of a modern-day version of the lovely 1990, the 2022 La Lagune bursts with aromas of dark berries, cassis, licorice and violets. Medium to full-bodied, supple and fleshy, it's a broad, sensual wine with velvety tannins and a suave, charming profile. With 13.8% alcohol, it remains classically proportioned, with a rather high pH of over 3.8 likely contributing to its open, giving style this year.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	This is long and fresh with a linear feeling to the rich fruit, showing plums, redcurrants and spices, with chocolate and walnuts. Medium to full body. Fine tannins. This is the first year being certified biodynamic by Biodyvin and furthermore, La Lagune is always excellent in hot years.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 La Lagune is a very pretty, understated wine with lovely aromatics and mid-weight structure. In this tasting, La Lagune is a bit disjointed, showing only modest depth and complexity relative to the norm. All that said, the 2022 is a very fine effort for a year with hail issues. Yields were just 25 hectoliters per hectare. Tasted two times.				
Score: 88-91					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Poujeaux	88-90	94-95	90-92		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Poujeaux offers up aromas of cassis, plums, pencil shavings and sweet soil tones, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and concentrated palate that opens with a velvety attack, segueing into a firmer, more austere mid-palate and finish that depress my score. If this rounds out with élevage, my review will prove conservative.				
Score: 88-90					
James Suckling	A medium-bodied red with crunchy fruit and tight tannin structure. Juicy acidity coming through. Chewy and solid at the end. Closed and pretty tannins.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Poujeaux is very beautiful. Silky, aromatic and elegant, the 2022 is flat-out delicious. Crushed red/purplish berries, mint, blood orange, graphite and spice are all beautifully woven together. Clean mineral notes extend the finish effortlessly. The 2022 is all class. It's as simple as that.				
Score: 90-92					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

HAUT MEDOC	WA	JS	V	NM	PRICE
Cantemerle	92-94	93-94			
Wines Advocate	The finest wine this estate has produced in some time is the 2022 Cantemerle, a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Franc that bursts from the glass with aromas of sweet blackberries, violets, rose petals and spices. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with an enveloping core of sweet, perfumed fruit framed by supple tannin, it concludes with a long, mouthwatering finish. The pH is a very healthy 3.6 this year, and yields were low at 29 hectoliters per hectare.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	Currants, blackberries and hints of bark and forest floor. Medium-bodied with creamy tannins and a flavorful finish. Pretty balance to this.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

GRAVES & PESSAC-LEOGNAN	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
De Fieuzal	94-96+	94-95			
Wines Advocate	The cumulative rainfall at Château Fieuzal was only 385 millimeters in 2022, compared to 753 millimeters in 2021 and 743 millimeters in 2020. But this did not prevent Stephen Carrier and his team from making a fresh and energetic 2022 de Fieuzal, bursting with aromas of violet, iris, menthol and crunchy wild berries mingled with hints of coniferous forest floor. Medium to full-bodied, it's pristinely balanced and beautifully layered, exhibiting a vibrant palate that's deep, tensile and elegant, concluding with a mouthwateringly mineral finish. This estate is achieving things no one would have thought possible a decade ago.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling	A crunchy and energetic wine from here this year with black berry, black cherry and crushed stone character. Medium-bodied with lively acidity and a fine tannin background.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Mission Haut Brion	94-96+	98-99	97-99		
Wines Advocate	A rich and muscular wine that reflects the warmth of the vintage, the 2022 La Mission Haut-Brion reveals aromas of dark berries, cherries and crème de cassis mingled with licorice, spices, incense and spring flowers. Full-bodied, broad and concentrated, it's surprisingly lively despite an elevated pH of 4.0, exhibiting a seamless, broad-shouldered profile with an ample core of fruit framed by rich, powdery tannin. It's a blend of 51.7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43.2% Merlot and 5.1% Cabernet Franc.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling	This has real al dente fruit character on the palate with lemon rind and blackcurrants with blueberries. Lead pencil and stone, too. Full-bodied with chewy and juicy tannins that are primary and growing quickly on the palate as you taste it. Reminds me of the 1978, but brighter and more precise. 51.7% cabernet sauvignon, 43.2% merlot and 5.1% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 La Mission Haut-Brion is shaping up to be a jewel of a wine. Dark, powerful and imposing, with compelling inner sweetness, La Mission is positively striking. The purity of the flavors is striking, but the wine's statuesque personality might be even more impressive. Time in the glass brings out all sorts of savory and mineral notes that add complexity. The balance here is just mind-blowing. What a wine!				
Score: 97-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Mission Haut Brion Blanc	94-96	96-97	92-94		
Wines Advocate	Perhaps it's because of the drought-affected vintage, or it could be due to the fantastic terroir of La Mission Haut-Brion, but in any case, the 2022 La Mission Haut-Brion Blanc is especially aromatically expressive, bursting with lively aromas of pear, linen, smoke, gunflint, lemon and spring flowers. Medium to full-bodied, crystalline and pure, it's tensile and seamless, with impressively vibrant acids and a saline finish.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	So much oyster shell here with a chalk, stone character, as well as dried lemons and sliced white peaches and pears. It's medium to full body with lovely fruit and a flavorful finish. Bitter lemon as well. 72% semillon and 28% sauvignon blanc.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 La Mission Haut-Brion Blanc is incredibly tightly wound, especially for the year and considering its heavy Semillon tilt in the blend. It will be interesting to see where this goes. There's tremendous depth here and also a phenolic-like feel that is impossible to escape. My impression is that there is a lot of wine here, but it needs time to come together.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Chapelle de la Mission Haut Brion	90-92+	94-95	91-93		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 55.9% Merlot, 35.4% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8.7% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 La Chapelle de la Mission Haut-Brion offers aromas of dark berries, licorice, graphite, bell pepper and pencil shavings. It's medium to full-bodied, fleshy and nicely balanced with a tense, fresh and penetrating finish.				
Score: 90-92+					
James Suckling	Really fresh and linear with graphite, tar, berry and stone aromas and flavors. Medium and fine on the palate showing no heat or over-maturity. Attractive tannins at the end. 55.9% merlot, 35.4% cabernet sauvignon and 8.7% cabernet franc.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 La Chapelle de La Mission Haut Brion is a powerful, dense wine, almost shockingly so. Gravel, spice, leather, menthol and dried flowers give the 2022 tons of aromatic presence to play off a core of dark, red-toned fruit. I don't recall tasting a Chapelle with this much tannin in recent times, going back to the 2010. Readers will find a wine that delivers immense pleasure, though and tons of character.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Haut Brion	95-97	98-99	97-99		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Haut-Brion shows considerable promise, revealing aromas of dark berries and plums mingled with notions of pencil lead, licorice, tobacco leaf, spices and incense. Full-bodied, broad and seamless, it's rich and muscular, with a deep, layered core of fruit framed by an ample endowment of tannin. This blend of 53.6% Merlot, 35.4% Cabernet Sauvignon and 11% Cabernet Franc, the result is a lip-smacking exemplification of controlled power. Analytically, the 2022 possesses a similar level of tannins to the 2010, and a similar pH to the 2009, yet it is more suave and polished than the 2010 at the same stage, and seemingly more dynamic than the 2009.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	Currants and cedar with sandalwood and peaches. Fascinating aromas. Violets. Full-bodied with a crunchy and electric palate of primary fruit, with hints of tangerines and citrus. Great finish with structure and polish. 53.6% merlot, 35.4% cabernet sauvignon and 11% cabernet franc. Interesting to have such high merlot in the blend.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Haut-Brion comes across as a bit restrained, given the natural opulence of the year and the other wines in the Clarence Dillon portfolio. Deep and wonderfully layered, the 2022 possesses remarkable depth but also a bit less of the explosive energy that is such a Haut-Brion signature. I suspect that will come in time, as the 2022 starts to show quite a bit better with a little aeration. Violet, gravel, incense, leather, tobacco and scorched earth linger. Superb.				
Score: 97-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Haut Brion Blanc	93-95	98-99	94-96		
Wines Advocate	Delivering aromas of peach, sweet orchard fruit, spring flowers and lemon oil, the 2022 Haut-Brion Blanc is a full-bodied wine with a seamless, enveloping profile. Its glossy, textural mid-palate that segues into a sappy, racy finish of crystalline purity. A blend of 51.4% Sémillon and 48.6% Sauvignon Blanc, this wine is fatter and fleshier than the more tensile La Mission Haut-Brion and will in all likelihood offer a broader drinking window.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Dried lemon and lime with honeysuckle and stone aromas, that follow through to a full body with fantastic length and energy at the end. Phenolics give it great length and stature. 51.4% semillon and 48.6% sauvignon blanc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Haut-Brion Blanc is fabulous. Rich, explosive and dramatic, the 2022 is stunning right out of the glass. Soft curves wrap around a core of lemon confit, marzipan, chamomile, dried flowers and mint. The 2022 is a serious white that will blossom beautifully with time. It is wonderfully impressive in this tasting.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Haut Bailly	94-96	97-98	93-96		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Haut-Bailly offers up aromas of dark berries complemented by accents of iris, lilac, rose petals, graphite and licorice. Medium to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, dense, it's layered and textural, with a deep core of fruit, powdery tannins and a penetrating, saline finish. Vinified along traditional lines, it is a structured wine that will take some time to hit its stride, but at this early stage it appears suppler and more seamless than its 2020 and 2019 predecessors. A blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 37% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc from grapes picked from September 7 to 27, it's maturing half in new barriques and half in one- or two-year-old barrels.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	Incredible complexity of aromas here with ripe currants and blackberries, but also dried flowers like violets and roses. Then there's forest flower character such as bark, mushroom and sandalwood. Black truffles. Full-bodied with tight and chewy tannins that are polished and pure, with a solid and tight finish. It builds on your palate and frames the wine beautifully. 56% cabernet sauvignon, 37% merlot, 5% petit verdot and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Haut-Bailly is dark and quite brooding in bearing. The natural intensity of small grapes comes through in the wine's dark fruit and firm, imposing tannins. Black cherry, gravel, cloves, cured meats, licorice, incense and charcoal embers add to an impression of virile thrust. I imagine the 2022 will take some time to come together, as the tannins are pretty forbidding at this stage.				
Score: 93-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Clarté de Haut Brion Blanc	91-93	96-97	90-92		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 53.7% Sauvignon Blanc and 46.3% Sémillon, the 2022 La Clarté de Haut-Brion has a delicate yet lively bouquet intermingling aromas of lemon, lime tree, perfectly ripe pear and spring flowers. Medium to full-bodied, juicy and energetic, it's a fresh, perfectly balanced wine with a delicate, fruity and slightly tannic finish.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Aromas of oyster shell and crushed stone with lemon curd and dried lemon. Full and layered with a chewy, phenolic texture and a long and flavorful finish. Wonderful. 53.7% sauvignon blanc and 46.3% semillon.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 La Clarté de Haut Brion is wonderfully open-knit and inviting. Lemon confit, passionfruit, mint and a hint of tangerine oil all grace this sensual, engaging second white wine from Haut Brion and La Mission Haut-Brion.				
Score: 90-92					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Clarence de Haut Brion	91-93+	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion, the second wine of Château Haut-Brion, is elaborated from a blend of 61.2% Merlot, 21.9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5% Cabernet Franc and 1.5% Petit Verdot. It reveals a bright, fruity bouquet with aromas of dark berries, plums, tobacco, graphite and spices. On the palate, the wine is medium to full-bodied, layered and seamless, textural and fleshy with structuring tannins and a fresh, tense finish. It is a very nice way to introduce the great wine of Haut-Brion.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	A medium- to full-bodied red with fine and lightly chewy tannins. Lots of dark chocolate, crushed stone and graphite flavors at the end. Subtle. 62.1% merlot, 21.9% cabernet sauvignon, 14.5% cabernet franc and 1.5% petit verdot.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion is fabulous. Rich, deep and explosive, La Clarence is everything a second wine should be. In other words, a smaller-scaled version of the original. Sumptuous dark fruit makes a strong opening statement. Complicated notes of gravel, dried herbs, crushed rose petals and blood orange lend gorgeous savory nuance. Impressive.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Smith Haut Lafitte	94-95	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Smith Haut Lafitte opens in the glass with attractive aromas of cassis, spices, tobacco, graphite and licorice, followed by a medium to full-bodied palate that is deep and layered, with good depth and powdery structuring tannins that assert themselves on the finish. This blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot will require some patience, given its somewhat extracted style.				
Score: 94-95					
James Suckling	The polish, texture, complexity and patina are very impressive and fascinating. So spicy and interesting with so much going on. Medium body with wonderfully integrated tannins that are cut and nicely chiselled already. Lemon and violet. 64% cabernet sauvignon, 32% merlot, 3% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Smith Haut Lafitte is a regal, elegant wine. Succulent inky fruit, licorice, spice, lavender and mocha open in a gracious, sublime Grand Vin. Here, too, the wine's persistence and energy are notable. The Cabernet is especially evident this year, in both the wine's flavor profile and overall structural feel. In many vintages, the Grand Vin is more immediate and alluring. The 2022 is quite reticent.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc	93-95+	97-98	94-96		
Wines Advocate	It appears likely that the 2022 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc will overtake its 2019 counterpart as one of the most successful white wines this estate has produced to date, something that's especially impressive in the context of the vintage. Exhibiting aromas of linden, menthol, crisp orchard fruit and smoke, it's medium to full-bodied, fleshy and crystalline, with racy acids and an unctuous mid-palate. Chalky structuring dry extract makes its presence felt on the long, mineral finish. This is a blend of 90% Sauvignon Blanc, 5% Sémillon and 5% Sauvignon Gris.				
Score: 93-95+					
James Suckling	This zooms over the palate from the minute you taste it with energetic acidity, grapefruit, pear, lemon and white peach character. Dried, candied lemon. Crushed stone, too. Medium-bodied with polish and class. 90% sauvignon blanc, 5% semillon and 5% sauvignon gris.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc is airy, weightless and gracious. Citrus confit, mint, white pepper and tangerine oil and a kiss of French oak are all beautifully lifted. There's lovely richness and texture but without the opulence of most warm, dry years. The 2022 will be a gorgeous wine at the dinner table.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Les Carmes Haut Brion	99-100	97-98	98-100		
Wines Advocate	The remarkable 2022 Les Carmes Haut-Brion is a strong candidate for the title of wine of the vintage. It's also one of the most singular, characterful wines being produced in the region today. Unfurling in the glass with complex aromas of blackberries and cherries mingled with notions of exotic spices, orange zest, pencil lead, rose petals and vine smoke, it's medium to full-bodied, deep and concentrated, with a velvety attack that segues into a layered, seamless and multidimensional mid-palate framed by rich, powdery tannins. Pure, perfumed and penetrating, this blend of 40% Cabernet Franc, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon and 26% Merlot is a brilliant success that caps a decade of relentless work by Guillaume Pouthier and his team that have seen Les Carmes Haut-Brion emerge as one of Bordeaux's leading estates. It checks in at a mere 13.5% alcohol, with a very healthy pH of 3.64.				
Score: 99-100					
James Suckling	This is so umami with sea urchin character that gives you sea salt and dried seaweed aromas and flavors. The integrity and richness is so impressive with an exotic character, yet it is so classic and fine in structure. 13.5% alcohol. 70% whole cluster fermentation. 40% cabernet franc, 35% cabernet sauvignon and 25% merlot. A new model for Bordeaux?				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	Technical Director Guillaume Pouthier follows his majestic 2020 with another riveting wine. The 2022 Les Carmes Haut-Brion is, quite simply, unforgettable. A wine of tremendous energy, the 2022 saturates the palate with inky red/blue fruits, lavender, sage and mint, showing remarkable density that builds into an eternal finish enshrouded by seamless tannins. The 2022 is a co-ferment of 40% Cabernet Franc, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon and 26% Merlot done with 70% stems that saw six full weeks on the skins. Élevage is 70% new oak, 20% 18HL cask and 10% amphora. It is an incredibly modern wine that marries Bordeaux classicism with hints of Northern Rhône and Piedmont inflections. All the elements are so wellbalanced that nothing sticks out. Instead, it is the wine's profound beauty that leaves a lasting impression.				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pape Clement	92-94	97-98	93-96		
Wines Advocate	Revealing aromas of blueberries, cassis, spring flowers and toasty new oak, the 2022 Pape Clément is full-bodied, broad and textural, with a rich, layered core of super-ripe fruit framed by liberally extracted tannins that assert themselves on the firm, lavishly oaky finish. This is a flamboyant, unabashedly modern-styled Pape Clément that will need several years in the cellar to blossom. It's a blend of 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	This is a very structured 2022 with powerful tannins that run the length of the wine. Yet it's perfumed and fresh with flowers and subtle undertones of stone. Pure. It's full but not heavy with backbone and structure. Lots of crushed stone and currants. One of the most transparent you Pape's I have tasted. 60% merlot and 40% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Pape Clement is shaping up to be a gem. Deep, pliant and layered in the glass, the 2022 possesses notable energy and vibrancy to play off its core of rich, sumptuous fruit. Soft, plush contours wrap it all together. Time in the glass brings out notable energy, especially as the mid-palate opens into the gorgeous, palate-staining finish. The 2022 is unusual in that it is 60% Merlot, rather than the more typical blend of equal parts Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Tasted three times				
Score: 93-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pape Clement Blanc	90-93	98-99	93-95		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 63% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Sémillon and 2% Muscadelle, the 2022 Pape Clément Blanc exhibits aromas of spices, spring flowers, lemon, peach and hints of jasmine and grapefruit. The palate is medium to full-bodied, fleshy and satiny, with an oaky frame. The finish is long, persistent and elegantly spicy.				
Score: 90-93					
James Suckling	The purity of fruit is really impressive here with crushed apples, pears and lemons. Some mineral and stone, too. Honeysuckle. Very clear and bright. The palate is full and very direct and focused, with a long, salty dried lemon finish and minerality. Fine phenolics at the end. 63% sauvignon blanc, 35% semillon and 2% muscadelle.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Pape Clement Blanc is a very pretty, exotic white. Drops of Muscadelle in the blend add a very pretty hint of jasmine and lime to play off the richer, riper flavors on the palate. The 2022 offers lovely density and creaminess, with plenty of orchard fruit, marzipan and chamomile flavors, yet also remains light on its feet and wonderfully fresh. Tasted three times				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Domaine De Chevalier	94-96	98-99	93-96		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 Domaine de Chevalier delivers aromas of minty dark berries, cherries and ripe plums mingled with hints of licorice, coniferous forest and spices. Medium to full-bodied, it's concentrated and layered, textured and elegant, framed by powdery tannins and concluding with a long, penetrating, long finish. Olivier Bernard and his team have crafted an outstanding wine that will bear a special label commemorating his 40th vinification at this Pèssac-Léognan reference point.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	Wow. This is incredibly structured and powerful with ultra-fine tannins that are tight and layered. It's full and powerful with carved muscles of tannins. This will need so much time.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Domaine de Chevalier is a powerhouse. I don't remember tasting anything like it. Black cherry, plum, graphite, licorice and spic add to an impression of virile intensity. Readers should expect to play the long game, as the tannins are pretty imposing at this stage. That has been the case each of the four times I have tasted the 2022 so far.				
Score: 93-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Domaine De Chevalier Blanc	93-96	98-99	95-97		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc offers up aromas of pear, nectarine, crushed mint jasmine and lemon, followed by a medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated palate with a mineral-driven profile. It's lively and bright, with a delicate, penetrating finish animated by racy acids. This blend of 70% Sauvignon Blanc and 30% Sémillon, matured entirely in large wooden foudres and 500-liter barrels instead of the traditional barriques, is one of the finest white wines of the vintage, and one of the few that transcends its limitations.				
Score: 93-96					
James Suckling	A deep and layered white with rich and intense structure. It's full yet agile with so much energy and intensity. Cooked apple, lime zest and nougat with oyster and sea bed undertones. Fascinating already.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc is stunning. It exudes textural depth, intensity and pedigree from the very first taste. I imagine it will still be stellar in another few years' time. For now, it is a wine to think about cellaring. Time brings out dried lemon peel, sage, mint, chamomile, salt and crushed rock scents that lend both vibrancy and complexity. In most vintages, the Blanc is either incredibly steely or ample in feel. In 2022, it is both. Tasted four times.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Carbonnieux	92-94	92-93			\$43
Wines Advocate	From this 92-hectare estate, the 2022 Carbonnieux is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, matured in 40% new oak in 225-liter barrels. The bouquet offers up elegant and vibrant aromas of cassis, blueberry, iris, violet and spring flowers. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is perfectly balanced, concentrated and fleshy ,with velvety tannins and excellent concentration. This is an excellent Carbonnieux—indeed, it may be one of the best of modern times.				
Score: 92-94					
James Suckling	Soft and juicy red with blackberry and blueberry character. Medium body. Velvety tannins. Medium finish. Could use a little more at the end, but nicely focused.				
Score: 92-93					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Carbonnieux Blanc	91-93+	93-94			\$43
Wines Advocate	A blend of 65% Sauvignon and 35% Sémillon, the 2022 Carbonnieux Blanc reveals a delicate bouquet with aromas of lemon, jasmine, linden, smoke, pear and peach, followed by a medium to full-bodied, fleshy and concentrated palate that's deep and harmonious, with a bright core of fruit and a zesty, mineral-driven finish. Built around racy acids, this is a very classy Carbonnieux Blanc that's built to age with grace. Harvest here began early, on 16 August.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	Very Carbonnieux with apple and oyster shell character as well as a medium to full body and a delicious finish. Well done.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Latour Martillac	91-93	95-96	91-93		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot and 8% Petit Verdot, the 2022 Latour Martillac displays aromas of cassis, blueberry, raspberry, licorice, menthol, iris and violet. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is perfectly balanced, fleshy in the mid-palate and seamless with a moderately concentrated and elegant texture. The new winery allows for more accuracy during the winemaking process, and it is noticeable.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Very polished and focused this year with blackberry and blueberry character, as well as blackcurrants. Medium body. Fine tannins. Lovely length.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Latour-Martillac is brilliant. Bright, focused and pulsing with energy, the 2022 is superimpressive. Crushed rocks, white pepper, chalk and blood orange give the 2022 a gorgeous upper register of intensity to play off a core of vibrant red-toned fruit. The 2022 is hugely promising. Tasted two times.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Latour Martillac Blanc	90-92	93-94	85-87		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 52% Sauvignon Blanc and 48% Sémillon, the 2022 Latour Martillac Blanc reveals aromas of pear, peach, iodine, lime tree and verbena. Medium to full-bodied, tense and mineral-driven with a salty, fresh finish, this is a classic and incisive Latour Martillac Blanc.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	Fresh and bright with lemon pith, white flowers and chalky minerality. Medium- to full-bodied with vivid acidity. Really attractive and crisp.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Latour-Martillac Blanc has plenty of energy, but not much in the way of mid-palate or finish. Ultimately it comes across as overly taut and austere at this stage. Let's see what happens once this is in bottle. Tasted two times.				
Score: 85-87					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Malartic Lagraviere	91-93	95-96	94-96.5		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot, 2.5% Petit Verdot and 1.5% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 Malartic Lagravière reveals aromas of cassis, blueberry, spices, graphite and menthol. Medium to full-bodied, round and concentrated with structuring tannins, it's a dense, powerful, demonstrative Malartic Lagravière.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	This is very, very fine with wonderfully polished tannins that are silky in texture. It's medium- to full-bodied with lovely length, lasting a minute or two. Hints of crushed stone and fine sea salt. Finesse with structure. Could move up a notch with the elevage. 53% cabernet sauvignon, 43% merlot, 2.5% petit verdot, and 1.5% cabernet franc.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Malartic Lagravière exudes class. Bright, layered and wonderfully vibrant, the 2022 is so alive. Rose petals, lavender, crushed rocks, mint and red/purplish fruit race across the palate. All the elements are so well balanced. Malartic Lagravière has all the potential to be one of the great wines of the year. This is a fabulous showing. Tasted two times.				
Score: 94-96.5					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Malartic Lagraviere Blanc	90-92	97-98	91-93		
Wines Advocate	A strong effort, the 2022 Malartic Lagravière Blanc reveals aromas of Anjou pear, spring flowers, verbena, linden and mint, followed by a medium to full-bodied palate with good depth and flesh. Fresh and racy, this will offer a broad drinking window.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	Very sophisticated and structured yet weightless and agile, with a finesse, precision and length that is so wonderful. So precise and complex with vivid acidity and length. Such clarity. Really excited about this one.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Malartic-Lagravière Blanc screams out of the glass with tons of Sauvignon Blanc character. Crisp and vibrant, with notable tension, the 2022 is wonderfully expressive. Grapefruit, mint, crushed rocks, sage and white pepper all grace this taut, steely white.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

SAINT EMILION	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Cheval Blanc	97-99+	99-100	98-100		\$808
Wines Advocate	One of the stars of the vintage is the striking 2022 Cheval Blanc, a blend of 53% Merlot, 46% Cabernet Franc and 1% Cabernet Sauvignon that bursts from the glass with aromas of mulberries, cherries and wild berries mingled with mint, orange zest, pencil lead, vine smoke and exotic spices. Medium to full-bodied, velvety and layered, it's rich and gourmand, with beautifully refined tannins, lively acids and a long, saline, pungently perfumed finish. Harvest began on 29 August, with all the Merlot picked before the month was out, and the result is a wine that is as vibrant as it is lavish.				
Score: 97-99+					
James Suckling	This is a wine that soars to new heights with its brightness and weightlessness. The balance of serene fruit that's perfectly ripe. Full-bodied yet tight and polished where it seems delicate and compressed, with berry, chocolate and walnut character. The finish is endless and poised. Wine of the vintage? 53% merlot, 46% cabernet franc and 1% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous:	The 2022 Cheval Blanc is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage. Deep, seamless and striking in its beauty, the 2022 possesses pedigree to burn. Readers will find a sumptuous wine, but there's plenty of tannin lurking beneath all of that intensity. In fact, the 2022 is the most tannic Cheval since 2010. The aromatics are surprisingly vibrant for a wine from a warm, dry year. The wine's energy is palpable. The 100% new oak is not all perceptible, which is another sign of top-notch balance. Time in the glass brings out a whole range of exotic Franc notes, followed by blood orange, red fruit, mind and dried herb touches. The 2022 includes 17% press wine (compared to the 11% or so that is typical), but as I have noted in my comments elsewhere in this report, the press lots were of high quality in 2022 because the winemaking was gentle. Once again, Cheval Blanc represents a pinnacle of excellence. Readers should note there is no Petit Cheval in 2022.				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Petit Cheval					
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Ausone	94-96+	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	A blend of equal parts Merlot and Cabernet Franc, the 2022 Ausone unwinds in the glass with aromas of plums, raspberries and cherries complemented by hints of crushed mint and spices, framed by a lavish patina of creamy new oak. Full-bodied, layered and rather muscular, it's deep and concentrated, its vibrant core of fruit framed by a serious chassis of rich, powdery tannins, concluding with a long, saline finish. Given its imposing levels of structuring extract, it will require patience.				
Score: 94-96+					
James Suckling	This is really open with bright and flamboyant aromas of cassis and cherries. Blueberries. Some peaches as well. I don't remember a young Ausone like that. Full-bodied with flamboyant fruit and energy. Very fine tannins. They are there but you don't feel them. Supple but very fruity. And intensely fruity at the end.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Ausone is dense, powerful and quite brooding in demeanor. Dark-toned fruit, spice, leather, licorice and dried herbs add to an impression of somber intensity. In so many vintages Ausone is immediately alluring, but the 2022 is a potent, backward wine that is going to require many years to be at its finest. The blend is equal parts Cabernet Franc and Merlot. Harvest took place between September 5 and 9 for the Merlot and September 21 and 27 for the Cabernet Franc. The 2022 is a decidedly hedonistic Ausone.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Chapelle D'Ausone	91-93+	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 60% Cabernet Franc, 35% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2022 Chapelle d'Ausone offers up aromas of cherries, raspberries and rose petals mingled with subtle hints of incense. Medium to full-bodied, layered and concentrated, it's taut and youthfully firm, concluding with a mineral finish.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	Red berries such as cherries and raspberries. Cassis. Full-bodied, very tight and focused on the palate with a linear acid and tannin backbone. Racy at the end. Contrasty. Plenty of energy. Just takes off. 65% cabernet franc and 35% merlot.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Chapelle d'Ausone is a powerful but also embryonic wine. Here, too, the wine's balance is impeccable. Super-ripe red cherry fruit, blood orange, spice, menthol and rose petal all meld together. Chapelle is a powerhouse second wine, if that term can even be used. The blend is 60% Cabernet Franc, 35% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Belair Monange	94-95	97-98	95-97		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of blackberries, cherry preserve, black tea and licorice introduce the 2022 Belair Monange, a full-bodied, deep and powerful wine with a layered, somewhat liqueured core of fruit, powdery tannins and a long, expansive and slightly heady finish. Perhaps because the vines are younger, this is the cuvée in the Mouiex portfolio that shows the ripeness of the vintage the most this year.				
Score: 94-95					
James Suckling	Loads of mocha, red fruits and hazenut. Nuts too. Wild strawberries and violets. Full-bodied and juicy with dusty and fine tannins that spread across the palate. Lovely soft texture. Elegant and long at the end. Rich and juicy at the end. 98% merlot and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Bélair-Monange is all class. Silky and sensual, Bélair-Monange is utterly captivating from the first taste. Crushed red berry fruit, mint, cinnamon, rose petal and lavender add gorgeous aromatic lift to play off a core of bright red-toned fruit. All the elements are beautifully balanced throughout.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pavie		95-96	94-96		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Intense aromas of cherries and spices. Full and layered without being heavy. It starts large and rich, but the tension and tannins tighten down. It's structured and powerful. Velvety, edgy tannins. Very salty at the end. Like an unpolished diamond. It now includes Pavie Decesse and Bellevue. Slightly overdone but wait and see. 52% merlot, 30% cabernet franc and 18% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Pavie is a unique wine that celebrates a number of milestones for the château. It marks the 20th anniversary of Pavie under the helm of Gerard and Chantal Perse, who have taken this once sleepy property to brilliant highs. Two thousand twenty-two is also the first vintage for Pavie since the incorporation of the Pavie Decesse and Bellevue Mondotte properties. From my perspective, it is always sad to see the loss of historical estates, even if they are relatively small because it is a loss of culture. In terms of the wine, it is superb. Black fruit, mocha, chocolate, licorice and spice add to an impression of virile intensity. Many recent vintages of Pavie have hinted towards a more vibrant style, but the 2022 is very strongly marked by the heat and drought of the year, the yields that are lower than typical and the harvest that started late in relative terms. In my view, the 2022 is a bit pushed, at least today. Huge tannins and a strong torrefaction oak imprint need time to soften, and that may or may not happen with élevage.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Angelus	96-98	98-99	93-95		\$602
Wines Advocate	This estate's shift in the direction of gentler extraction and more reductive, less overtly oaky élevage continues, and this extreme vintage only underlines that. Fermented at cool temperatures (20 to 23 degrees Celsius), and with an increasing proportion of the wine's Cabernet Franc component matured in large wooden foudres, the 2022 Angélus wafts from the glass with deep aromas of dark berries and cherries mingled with hints of iris, licorice and pencil lead. Full-bodied, deep and seamless, with a layered core of cool, vibrant fruit, powdery tannins and a long, saline finish, it's a brilliant young wine in the making. The 2022 is a blend of 53% Merlot, 46% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot.				
Score: 96-98					
James Suckling	So many beautiful primary fruit aromas. Al dente. Peaches. Very floral. Aromatic. Full-bodied and extremely fine tannins with length and beauty that show incredible depth. Superb brightness and reality. Exciting. Cabernet franc freshness and dynamics come through now, even though the blend is 60% merlot and 40% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Angélus is racy and super-expressive right out of the gate. These days a more restrained style has become the norm at Angélus, and yet there is plenty of mid-palate pliancy and overall richness. As good as this is, the most impressive 2022s I tasted at Angélus were straight out of barrel, which makes me think the Grand Vin could perhaps be at another level with a bit more selection. Even so, the 2022 is quite alluring.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Beausejour Duffau	95-97+	97-98	94-97		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Beauséjour (Duffau Lagarrosse) promises to be the finest wine that this superb limestone terroir has produced in at least several decades. In recent years, the quality of the site always shone through, but it was sometimes obscured by an impactful vinification and élevage (plenty of creamy new oak and malolactic fermentation in barrel). Much of the estate's Cabernet Franc was frequently eliminated from the blend. Joséphine Duffau Lagarrosse has changed that, incorporating fully 31% Cabernet Franc in the blend to deliver a complex and compelling wine evocative of wild berries, plums, rose petals and violets. Medium to full-bodied, pure and vibrant, it's supple and layered, with beautifully refined tannins, terrific depth at the core and a long, chalky finish.				
Score: 95-97+					
James Suckling	A beautiful and enticing red with blackberry, hazelnut, dried flower, spice and berry character. It's full yet poised with finesse and richness while also being bright and energetic. Precise.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Beauséjour Héritiers Duffau-Lagarrosse is an elegant, supremely polished wine. It is also an infant, and yet the pedigree is easy to see. Bright red/purplish fruit, rose petal, mint, chalk and white pepper lend aromatic brilliance to this understated, classy Saint-Émilien. Clean saline notes extend the finish effortlessly. I can't wait to taste this from bottle.				
Score: 94-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Canon	99-100	98-99	96-99		
Wines Advocate	From an estate that is delivering its greatest run of vintages since the superb Post War series that preceded the frosts of 1956, the 2022 Canon is a magical wine that will be worth every effort to track down. Wafting from the glass with aromas of dark berries, wild plums and cherries mingled with hints of bay leaf, spices and violets, it's full-bodied, layered and multidimensional, with huge levels of concentration, vibrant acids and beautifully refined tannins. Concluding with a long, saline finish, this pure, perfumed and ineffably complete Canon is built for the ages, even if its structural polish is such that it will be approachable at a surprisingly early age.				
Score: 99-100					
James Suckling	Endless on the palate with plenty of umami character. So Canon in its nature with plenty of fruit and fine tannins, yet almost weightless. The structure is all there. Electric. Long, long, long. 75% merlot and 25% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Canon is elegant and sensual, with virtually no sensation of tannin. A wine with no beginning and end, Canon is totally seamless. All the Canon signatures are there, but woven together in an effortless, gracious expression of this site. It's the sort of wine that is about subtlety and nuance more than power. Dark red/purplish fruit, lavender, rose petal and spice caress the palate, but ultimately, Canon is above all else a wine of exquisite detail. Haute couture. Tasted three times.				
Score: 96-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Gaffelière	95-96	96-97	98-100		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 La Gaffelière derives exclusively from the prime hillside vineyards below Ausone that made this estate so compelling in the early and mid-twentieth century, and the 2022 is the finest wine produced at this address in many a year, surpassing the 2019 and 2020 in quality. Wafting from the glass with incipiently complex aromas of wild berries, violets, lilac, licorice, vine smoke and raw cocoa, it's medium to full-bodied, supple and seamless, with a deep, multidimensional and beautifully vibrant core of fruit and polished tannins, concluding with a long, mouthwatering finish.				
Score: 95-96					
James Suckling	This is serious. Bold and structured with beautiful fruit, which is crunchy and vibrant. Full body. Lots of complexity and depth with a wide and velvety tannin structure. Excellent length. Lots of blue fruits. Touch of whole cluster.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 La Gaffelière is a drop-dead gorgeous beauty. Refined, sculpted and wonderfully precise, La Gaffelière simply has it all. Hints of lavender, mint, blood orange, spice and black cherry fruit all race across the glass. Clean mineral notes and fine tannins support the finish. The delineation here is simply breathtaking. La Gaffelière is 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Franc. Élevage is expected to be 19 months in 50% new oak and 50% neutral barrels. The 2022 is another exceptional wine from the Malet Roquefort family.				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Bellevue		94-95			
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Attractive purple fruit here with lavender, nut shell and stones. Medium- to full-bodied. Firm and broad tannin structure with a lingering chalky finish. Lots of juicy fruit.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Barde Haut	91-93+	94-95	94-96		
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with aromas of plums, wild berries, dark chocolate and creamy new oak, the 2022 Barde-Haut is medium to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a taut, youthfully structured profile and youthfully firm tannins. Exhibiting attractive purity of fruit and tension, gentler extraction would have seen it score higher.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	A velvety red with lovely creamy tannins, juicy fruit with black berries, spice, ink and boysenberry. Medium to full body with a solid structured and depth. Velvety texture. Hints of sea salt.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Barde-Haut is gorgeous. Rich and explosive, the 2022 offers up copious notes of blueberry jam, crème de cassis, lavender, mint and licorice, with pretty jasmine overtones that add exotic beauty. The tannins here are often a bit burly, but in the 2022 much of that is softened. This is an impressive showing.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Carillon d'Angélus		91-93	94-95	91-93		\$156
Wines Advocate	Unfurling in the glass with notions of raspberries, red plums, sweet soil tones and truffle, the 2022 Le Carillon d'Angélus is medium to full-bodied, fleshy and vibrant, with powdery tannins and a long, saline finish. As readers will remember, this bottling is no longer a "second wine" per se, but rather draws on some 25 hectares of dedicated vineyards, emphasizing Merlot from the cool terroirs of Saint-Christophe-des-Bardes, complemented by holdings in the gravelly Figeac sector and on clay soils near Angélus itself—with anything that doesn't make the cut relegated to the No. 3 d'Angélus.					
Score: 91-93						
James Suckling	A very fresh and vivid red with crunchy and bright character. Citrus rind as well. Medium-bodied. Fine tannins with a vivid finish. Precise.					
Score: 94-95						
Vinous	The 2022 Le Carillon d'Angélus is a rich, boisterous wine. Succulent dark cherry, plum, chocolate, new leather and licorice are nicely pushed forward. Racy and pliant, the 2022 Carillon is showing quite well in this tasting.					
Score: 91-93						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Grand Mayne			94-95			
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling	Full-bodied yet fresh and linear with bright fruit and firm, fine tannins. Crunchy and minerally. Fresh.					
Score: 94-95						
Vinous						
Score:						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Berliquet	94-95	93-94	91-93		\$76
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Berliquet is brilliant, bursting with aromas of plums, wild berries and lilac, followed by a medium to full-bodied, concentrated and vibrant palate that's deep and mineral. It's likely to be another of the vintage's more attractive en primeur proportions. This estate just goes from strength to strength—and that's before its new winery has been constructed! One of the most significant changes has been opting to retain higher canopies, which means that the fruiting zone of rows planted along the slope are now shaded, preserving freshness.				
Score: 94-95					
James Suckling	Lots of dark and crushed stones with blackberries and black olives. Dark earth. Full-bodied and more concentrated with very intense fruit and chewy tannins. Velvety and slightly rough, but all there.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Berliquet is super-concentrated, dark and ripe, but also without the forbidding tannins of the past. Succulent plum fruit, mocha, licorice and dried herbs are some of the many notes that grace this gorgeous Saint-Émilion. It will be interesting to see where the 2022 ends up post élevage. Today it is fullbodied and quite opulent. Tasted four times.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Dominique	90-92	95-96	93-95		
Wines Advocate	A rich, heady wine, the 2022 La Dominique offers up aromas of sweet cherries, baked berries and plum liqueur mingled with notions of licorice and melted asphalt. Medium to full-bodied, broad and fleshy, with a rich core of sweet, somewhat jammy fruit but reasonably lively underlying acids, it's framed by plenty of powdery tannin. I had entertained higher hopes for La Dominique this year, but perhaps the pace of ripening was just too rapid for the estate's technical team.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	Lovely fruit here with black berry, redcurrants and tile aromas and flavors. Medium- to full-bodied, very well integrated tannins and a lightly chewy finish, showing the potential of the vintage.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 La Dominique is stellar. Rich, deep and beautifully layered, the 2022 impresses with its fine balance. Succulent red/purplish fruit, lavender, spice, rose petal and mocha all take shape in the glass. All the elements come together beautifully in a polished, notable La Dominique. Tasted two times.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Saintayme		93-94	91-93		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	So much sea salt and crunchy fruit with berry and grape character. Some orange, too. Medium-bodied, bright and vivid. Lively finish.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Saintayme is bright, floral and vibrant in this vintage, almost surprisingly so. Crushed red berry fruit, rose petal, chalk, mint and white pepper all run through this taut, nervy Saint-Émilion. All the elements are so well balanced. I especially admire the wine's persistence and inner perfume. Terrific.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Canon La Gaffelière		94-96	97-98	94-96		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 50% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Franc and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2022 Canon la Gaffelière exhibits aromas of raspberries and plums, complemented by notions of iris, rose petals, incense and burning embers. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, it's supple, suave and sophisticated, with a lively core of fruit, powdery tannins and a long, saline finish.					
Score: 94-96						
James Suckling	Redcurrants with dark chocolate and hints of fresh herbs like basil and thyme on the nose. Full-bodied with a beautiful center palate and a lovely fine tannin texture. Extremely long. Classy. 35% cabernet franc, 15% cabernet sauvignon and 50% merlot, From organically grown grapes.					
Score: 97-98						
Vinous	The 2022 Canon La Gaffelière is bright, punchy and full of character. Blood orange, rose petal and spice overtones brighten a core of red/purplish fruit in Saint-Émilion that impresses with its saline intensity, energy and focus. If tasting this blind, I would never say it is a wine from a warm, drought year. It will be interesting to see if the 2022 retains its youthful vibrancy through élevage. This is super promising					
Score: 94-96						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Larcis-Ducasse	94-95	98-99	96-98		
Wines Advocate	A fleshy, opulent wine, the 2022 Larcis Ducasse bursts with aromas of rich, creamy berry fruit mingled with aromas of licorice, bay leaf and spices. Full-bodied, broad and enveloping, it's a textural, layered wine with a ripe core of fruit, supple tannins and an expansive finish. More dramatic and unabashed than the 2020, this will appeal to readers who place a premium on flamboyant extravagance; but samples tasted later during my visit to Bordeaux exhibited greater freshness and precision.				
Score: 94-95					
James Suckling	This is really precise with a lazer-guided fine tannin structure throughout the wine, and juicy and electric texture. It's so refined and polished. Endless. Wonderful young wine with a terrific future.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Larcis Ducasse is a huge, inky wine. A firm backbone of structure lies behind all of that opulence, yielding a wine that is both extravagantly rich and super-classic. That's a pretty appealing combination in my book. Dark red-toned fruit, spice, leather, tobacco, incense and mocha emerge, but only with great reluctance. The 2022 is packed to the core. I don't imagine it will be ready to drink anytime soon, but is unquestionably one of the wines of the vintage. The blend is 84% Merlot and 16% Cabernet Franc, a bit more Franc than usual, aging in equal parts 225- and 500-liter barrels. Tasted four times.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Clos Fourtet	94-96	97-98	96-98		
Wines Advocate	Now incorporating the vineyards of the former Grand Murailles, the 2022 Clos Fourtet is lovely, wafting from the glass with aromas of dark berries, plums, rose petals, orange zest and exotic spices. Medium to full-bodied, velvety and seamless, it's deep and complete, with a layered core of vibrant fruit and a long, saline finish. This is another terrific wine from this 19-hectare vineyard situated on the limestone plateau of Saint-Émilion, just outside the village. It's a blend of 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	This is broad and opulent with a full body and fine-grained, velvety tannins. Deep dark fruit, crushed violets and spices. Structured, layered and really long. Wow. So long and refined with great clarity.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Clos Fourtet is fabulous. Rich, sensual and layered, the 2022 bristles with the energy found in the best wines of the year. Clean veins of minerality frame a core of red/purplish fruit, lavender, sage, mint, rose petal and mocha. Simply put, the 2022 is a magical Clos Fourtet. This is the first vintage that incorporates fruit from what used to be Grands Murailles.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pavie-Macquin	94-96		95-97		
Wines Advocate	This site can deliver such powerful, tannic wines that I was left especially impressed by the supple, harmonious style of the 2022 Pavie Macquin. Unwinding in the glass with notions of sweet wild berries, rose petals, spices, violets, bay leaf and new oak, it's full-bodied, deep and vibrant, with a layered core of fruit, bright acids and a long, penetrating finish, where powdery structuring tannins make themselves felt but without any asperity. Of course, this remains a deep and powerful wine, but Nicolas Thienpont and his team continue their shift toward more judicious extraction, with excellent results.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Pavie Macquin is a gorgeous wine, not quite as exotic as it can be, which will no doubt please those who find this wine on the richer side within the context of Saint-Émilion. Dark red fruit, chalk, mint, white pepper and spice all race across the palate. Given the small size of the berries and the heat, the winemaking team led by Nicolas Thienpont opted for gentler vinification with fewer punchdowns than the past. The result is a decidedly linear, vibrant Pavie Macquin that bristles with the chalky, saline energy that is a signature of this part of Saint-Émilion, but that has not always been present in a wine that in the past has been more about textural opulence. The blend is 80% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc and 1% Cabernet Sauvignon. Tasted four times				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Figeac	98-100	97-98	96-99		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 35% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Franc and 31% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2022 Figeac is a brilliant wine with which to celebrate this property's elevation to Premier Grand Cru Classé "A" status. Wafting from the glass with aromas of raspberries and cassis mingled with notions of iris, forest floor, cigar wrapper and pencil lead, it's medium to full-bodied, pure and perfumed, with a deep and multidimensional core of fruit, bright acids and beautifully refined tannins. Serious yet civilized, it's the quintessential Figeac, testament to the late Thierry Manoncourt's vision to plant such a large proportion of Cabernet, and on drought-resistant rootstocks. Such is the inherent complexity of Figeac's terroirs that harvest took place sub-block by sub-block between September 1st and 25th. Congratulations are in order for the Manoncourt family, director Frédéric Faye, consulting winemaker Thomas Duclos and all their team.				
Score: 98-100					
James Suckling	This is the earliest ever harvest for Figeac and the fruit is something else. Flowers such as violets. Blackberries. Currants. Cherry blossom. Full-bodied with lovely freshness and depth. Crunchy and juicy. Perfect al dente fruit. 35% merlot , 34% cabernet franc and 31% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Figeac is a magnificent, super-classic Figeac, as odd as that might sound in this freakish vintage. A wine of sublime delicacy and nuance, the 2022 possesses tremendous aromatic presence, finely sculpted fruit and phenomenal persistence. I especially admire the wine's freshness, energy and clean, mineral finish. The 2022 is a towering Figeac, a wine that brilliantly showcases the unique qualities of this site. Figeac is a rare Right Bank estate with gravel and blue clay soils that are not often found here, planted approximately with equal parts Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score: 96-99					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Monbousquet		93-94	92-94		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A rich wine with lots of tannins that are very fine and velvety, with deep fruit. Full and flavorful. Slightly salty and irony. Remains fresh and minerally. Some white pepper. Lead pencil.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 Monbousquet is gorgeous. Rich, deep and explosive, the 2022 offers up an exotic mélange of sumptuous red/purplish fruit, lavender, mint and rose petal. Curvy and sumptuous, with striking fruit purity, Monbousquet is super-impressive in this tasting.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Pavie Decesse					
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Troplong Mondot	98-100	97-98	96-98		
Wines Advocate	A wine that transcended both my lofty expectations and anything produced at this address in the last 50 years, the 2022 Troplong Mondot realizes all the potential of this striking terroir. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of dark berries, cherries, exotic spices, bay leaf and orange zest, it's full-bodied, deep and multidimensional, with incredible concentration without weight, supple tannins and a seamless, complete profile, concluding with a long, saline finish. All the work of the last few years in the vineyards and winery makes itself felt, as Troplong Mondot's vineyards took the hot, dry conditions in their stride, and the quality of the fruit that they produced has been preserved by a gentle vinification and a discreet élevage, featuring only 55% new oak and some 20% of the volume in large foudres.				
Score: 98-100					
James Suckling	Very attractive aromas of plums and chocolate with hints of raspberry bush and hazelnut. So fresh and even savory with medium to full body. Such a wide tannin structure building up on the palate. Shows depth and length with lots of minerality. Floral. Beautiful already. 85% merlot, 13% cabernet sauvignon and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Troplong Mondot is one of the most elegant wines I have ever tasted here. Seamless and layered, the 2022 caresses the palate with layers of dark-fleshed fruit, spice, leather and mocha. The purity of the fruit is just remarkable. The typical Troplong stature is present, but the tannins are nearly imperceptible. Clean saline notes extend the long, precise finish. In 2022, the estate was quite selective and only bottled about 70% of the production as Grand Vin, as opposed to the more typical 90% or so.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Beau-Séjour Bécot	96-98		98-100		
Wines Advocate	With the 2022 Beau-Séjour Bécot, this estate has taken another step up the ranks in Saint-Émilion, producing a wine of breathtaking perfume and harmony that will be worth a special effort to seek out. Wafting from the glass with aromas of wild berries, violets, lilac, raw cocoa and forest floor, it's medium to full-bodied, seamless and complete, with an ample and enveloping core of weightless fruit, beautifully powdery tannins and a long, saline, resonant finish. Recently planted massale selection Cabernet Franc is now producing meaningful yields at this address, so this cépage now represents 22% of the blend, complemented by 2% Cabernet Sauvignon and the balance Merlot. The team harvested only in the mornings, picking Merlot from 5-18 September and Cabernet from 13-23 September, sub-block by sub-block.				
Score: 96-98					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous	The 2022 Beau-Séjour Bécot has a bit more Cabernet Franc than most years, which comes through immediately in the wine's aromatic profile. Dark, rich and expressive., the 2022 is seriously impressive. Crushed flowers, herbs, mint, blood orange and red-toned fruit all build into a sumptuous, majestic finish that just explodes on the back end. The 2022 is one of the very finest editions of Beau-Séjour Bécot I can remember tasting. It is a great, great wine.				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Bellevue Mondotte					
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Clos de Sarpe	93-95	94-95	94-96		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 Clos de Sarpe wafts from the glass with aromas of sweet red berries, cherries, licorice and petals. Full-bodied, broad and layered, it's no blushing violet at 15% alcohol; yet this limestone terroir has delivered a remarkably low pH and concomitant freshness, and judicious extraction during a long but low-temperature maceration means that it remains suave and seamless.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Intense sliced berry aromas and flavors with minerals and stones. Very salty and intense. Medium to full body. Bright finish. Classy. Fine tannins. Minerally at the end.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Clos de Sarpe is fabulous. Dark, structured and wonderfully deep, the 2022 marries the richness of this warm, dry year with beams of vibrant acidity that lend sizzling tension. Bright red/purplish berry fruit, lavender, rose petal, spice and pomegranate all build, but the wine's sublime balance impresses most. The 2022 is another important Clos de Sarpe under the guidance of Maylis Marcenat, who continues to bring much-needed new energy to this striking property.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Croix de Labrie		97-98	92-95		\$142
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	An incredible young wine that shows fantastic chalk and stone character on both the nose and palate. It's full but super racy and intense, with a freshness and dryness that is very unique. Oyster shell and iodine character at the end. Salt and white pepper in the finish. From biodynamically grown grapes. From organically grown grapes.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Croix de Labrie is loaded with potential. Dark, sumptuous and also wonderfully vibrant, the 2022 offers tons of intensity and nuance. Ripe dark fruit, mocha, spice, lavender and licorice are beautifully delineated. Clean, saline notes extend the finish effortlessly. The 2022 is fabulous. Tasted three times.				
Score: 92-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Serre	90-93	93-94	91-93		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 La Serre is a notable success, offering up aromas of wild berries, cherries and rose petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and suave palate that's deep, seamless and sensual, with a bright core of fruit and a long, mineral finish. This seven-hectare estate, situated on the shallow soils of the limestone plateau next to La Clotte and Villemaurine on the one side and Trotte Vieille and Troplong Mondot on the other, is planted at 7,200 vines per hectare, with some 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc. With this vintage, La Serre takes an appreciable step up in quality.				
Score: 90-93					
James Suckling	A juicy and chewy red with crushed stone and hints of chalkboard with black fruits and nutmeg spice. Medium to full body. Structured finish. Very well done here.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous	The 2022 La Serre is a dark, powerful wine. Black cherry, plum, gravel, incense, licorice and scorched earth are beautifully layered in this rather somber Saint-Émilion. The tannins need to soften, but there is certainly much to look forward to				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

L'If	93-95	98-99	93-95		
Wines Advocate	Aromas of raspberries, cherries, spices and bay leaf introduce the 2022 L'If, a medium to full-bodied, layered and fleshy wine that's taut and vibrant, built around lively acids and fine, chalky tannins. A blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, the decision to halve the volume of pump-overs have delivered a suave Saint-Émilion, even in this structured vintage.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Gorgeous and very fine tannins with a fine velvet texture and wonderful berry, chocolate and hazelnut character. Medium-bodied with round and balanced tannins with serenity and a crunchy finish. 80% merlot and 20% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 L'If is a powerhouse. An exotic mélange of blackberry jam, bittersweet chocolate, licorice, cloves and menthol saturates the palate, all backed up by huge, imposing tannins. This brooding, virile Saint-Émilion packs a huge punch. It will be interesting to see if this softens with élevage. The blend is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

POMEROL	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Feytit Clinet		94-95			
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A firm and juicy red with lots of berries, chocolate, salt and lightly toasted wood. Some smoke. Soft tannins. Flavorful finish.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Latour a Pomerol	91-94	97-98	90-92		\$94
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Latour à Pomerol wafts from the glass with aromas of sweet cherries, red berries, licorice and sweet spices. Medium to full-bodied, rich and velvety, with a sweet core of fruit, polished tannins and a ripe but lively profile, this is a fine effort.				
Score: 91-94					
James Suckling	Already shows very classy aromas of black berries, currants and black olives. Violets and other dried flowers. Full-bodied yet tight and polished with a reserved and muscular form, with finesse at the same time. New 1982? Pure merlot.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 Latour à Pomerol is a powerful, rich Pomerol. A blast of dark fruit, spice, dried herbs and mocha hits the palate. There's tremendous intensity and ripeness in the fruit profile, but also a slightly vegetal note that lurks beneath. Élevage will be critical here.				
Score: 90-92					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Gay	91-93+	96-97	93-95		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Le Gay offers up aromas of rich cassis, menthol and toasty new oak, followed by a full-bodied, rich and rather muscular palate framed by sweet, liberally extracted tannins that assert themselves on the finish. While this remains quite a chunky, stylized wine, defined by its fermentation in new oak barriques, it is comparatively restrained for this estate in such an extreme vintage.				
Score: 91-93+					
James Suckling	A juicy and polished Le Gay with full body and tannins which are nicely melted into the wine. Dark berry, chocolate and spice character. Savory finish.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Gay is wonderfully aromatic and nuanced from the first impression. Sweet tobacco, cedar, pipe tobacco and dried herbs open first as the Cabernet Franc makes itself felt. Medium in body and graceful, the Le Gay shows the radiance of the year, but is also impeccable in its balance. Sweet floral and spice top notes grace the exquisite finish. Tasted two times.				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Pin	96-99	99-100	94-97		
Wines Advocate	The elegance and harmony of the 2022 Le Pin took me aback. Harvest began at this small estate on September 6th, proceeding bit by bit until all 10 blocks were picked, and the resulting wine is maturing in 65% new oak. Wafting from the glass with aromas of minty blackberries and cassis mingled with hints of licorice, spices and rose petals, it's medium to full-bodied, bright and fleshy, with a sensual, seamless profile and terrific integration at such an early stage. It's one of the finest vintages at this address in the last decade or more.				
Score: 96-99					
James Suckling	Such is the ripeness and richness of the vintage but the wine remains so fresh and balanced. Medium-bodied with subtle and juicy tannins. It's a little fuller-bodied than the perfect 2020 but it is just as weightless and gorgeous. Cashmere texture throughout. Only 65% new wood.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Pin is racy and nicely textured, but it also comes across as somewhat closed. I suspect a sulfur addition three weeks before tasting explains much of the wine's reticence. There is almost certainly more to the 2022 than this tasting suggests. Needless to say, I am very curious to taste this again down the line.				
Score: 94-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Fleur Petrus	94-96	97-98	94-96		
Wines Advocate	The high point of the Mouiex portfolio this year is the beautiful 2022 La Fleur-Pétrus, a wine that derives from a number of prime clay-gravel parcels on Pomerol's plateau. Wafting from the glass with aromas of cassis and cherries mingled with hints of orange zest, pencil shavings and toasty oak, it's medium to full-bodied, ripe and fleshy, with an ample core of fruit, ripe tannins and a long, perfumed finish. Seamless and complete, it will offer a broad drinking window.				
Score: 94-96					
James Suckling	Very structured LFP with black berry, chocolate, walnut and spice character. Full yet fresh with tannic tension and energy in the finish. One for the cellar. 96.5% merlot, 3% cabernet franc and 0.5% petit verdot.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 La Fleur-Pétrus is shaping up to be a jewel of a wine. Sweet floral and spice notes lift a core of ripe red-toned fruit. The 2022 offers a gorgeous combination of finesse and opulence, but still in the mid-weight style that is such a signature here.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Violette	91-93	96-97	94-96		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 La Violette delivers notes of cherries, sweet berries, petals and toasty new oak, followed by a medium to full-bodied, velvety and rich palate framed by generously extracted tannins. While it's far from a blushing violet, it's comparatively restrained by this estate's standards and represents a well-made wine in its style.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Firm and layered with very fine tannins and impressive blackberry, dark chocolate and spice character, yet it is very reserved and beautiful. Medium to full body. Refined tannins and a savory finish. A sleek and linear beauty. Terrific potential here.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 La Violette is a gorgeous wine that marries the richness of the year with the energy of the Pomerol plateau and the brightness of the year. This is an especially fine vintage for La Violette, a wine that brings together all the best the year had to give. Blue/purplish fruit, lavender, mint, spice, crushed rocks and new leather build effortlessly, framed by clean saline underpinning that add vibrancy. The 2022 is rich and quite deep, but never heavy.				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Vieux Chateau Certan	97-99	98-99	98-100		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon (very similar to the 2019), the 2022 Vieux Château Certan is a magical wine of exemplary harmony and balance. Offering up complex aromas of dark berries and cherries mingled with notions of exotic spices, licorice, iris, violets and loamy soil, it's full-bodied, supple and seamless, its sweet structuring tannins entirely concealed by a multidimensional core of pure, vibrant fruit. This sensual, perfumed Pomerol is likely to rank alongside the 2019 and 2016 in the pantheon of recent Vieux Château Certan vintages.				
Score: 97-99					
James Suckling	The freshness and dynamic sense to the wine is so surprising. Minerally and salty. It's full yet racy. Black ink and oyster shell. Excellent length. 25% cabernet franc, 5% cabernet sauvignon and the rest, merlot.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Vieux Château Certan is a wine of tremendous sophistication and polish. I expected to see a more opulent VCC, but the 2022 is surprisingly delicate and nuanced. The blend is 75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, which means all the Cabernets at the château were used in Grand Vin. Perhaps that explains the wine's construction, favoring length, persistence and aromatics more than size. Crème de cassis, lavender, spice and licorice hints linger on the super-expressive finish. There's really not much more to say except that the 2022 is magical. "Real heat started in June," explained Alexandre Thienpont. "We had 15mm of rain over two days in mid-August that really helped. Even so, yields were 35 hectoliters per hectare, so lower than 2020. Berries weighed less than a gram and juice yields were low."				
Score: 98-100					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

L'Évangile	95-97	96-97	95-97		
Wines Advocate	Given the young average age of this estate's vineyards, its well-draining soils and the extreme vintage, I was a little apprehensive; but the technical team evidently took the conditions in their stride, harvesting the east-facing side of the vines (which sees the hottest afternoon sun) four days earlier. The resulting 2022 L'Évangile is beautiful, offering up aromas of raspberries, vine smoke, black truffles, violets and gravelly soil. Medium to full-bodied, supple and velvety, it's seamless and polished, with a bright core of fruit and powdery tannins that temper 2022's inherent sweetness of fruit to sophisticated effect. At this early stage, it appears that the estate's progress with regards to élevage continues too, as Évangile's creamy oak signature is much released, allowing the fruit—and this superb terroir—to take center stage. It's a blend of 82% Merlot, 17.5% Cabernet Franc and 0.5% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score: 95-97					
James Suckling	Fresh, wonderfully refined and gorgeously polished and long, with very fine tannins. Medium to full body. Crunchy fruit and chocolate, hazelnut and spice. Exciting to see how this tensioned beauty will evolve. Wonderful clarity.				
Score: 96-97					
Vinous	The 2022 L'Évangile is seriously impressive right out of the gate, dark, rich and enveloping. Dark-fleshed fruit, mocha, spice, leather and a kiss of new oak race across the palate. Texturally, the 2022 is gorgeous. One of the recent changes here (since the 2021 vintage) has been a reduction of wine that undergoes malolactic in barrel, from 100% down to 60-70%. More than anything, the 2022 impresses with its gorgeous inner sweetness and exceptional balance. In short, the 2022 is a classic Évangile.				
Score: 95-97					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Hosanna	93-95	98-99	94-96		
Wines Advocate	Offering up aromas of blackberries, minty blackcurrants, licorice and spices, the 2022 Hosanna is full-bodied, deep and concentrated, with a broad, velvety attack that segues into a layered, fleshy mid-palate of ripe but lively fruit that's framed by polished tannins. This is always one of the more extravagant wines in the Moueix portfolio, but in 2022 its exuberance remains in check.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	Wow. This is an incredibly structured Hosanna with tannin tension and density, yet resilience and verve. Full and dense while being weightless and bright at the end. Thought-provoking contrasts. Old vine magic. One for the cellar. 74% merlot and 26% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Hosanna is a heady, bombastic wine, as if often is, especially in warmer years. Black fruit, bittersweet chocolate, leather, spice, menthol and tobacco all race out of the glass. There's a good bit of tannin, which makes me think patience will be critical here				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

L'Eglise Clinet		97-98	96-98		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A L'Eglise Clinet with tension and class, with dark berries and chalk, salt and spice. There's hazelnut and ripe seeds with coffee bean undertones. Full and wonderfully long and fresh.				
Score: 97-98					
Vinous	The 2022 L'Eglise-Clinet is fabulous. Rich, deep and layered, with tremendous purity, the 2022 is already exceptionally well balanced. Dark fruit, gravel, licorice, dried herbs and lavender emerge, but only with great reluctance. Even so, there is something incredibly complete about the 2022 that is a bit hard to describe with words, but it is most definitely there! L'Eglise-Clinet is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage on the Right Bank.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Clinet		94-96+	94-95	94-96		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon that represents the earliest harvest in this estate's history (beginning on September 6), the 2022 Clinet is a success, offering up aromas of cherries and dark berries mingled with hints of spices and a discreet patina of new oak. Medium to full-bodied, ample and layered, it's impressively vibrant, with a rich core of fruit framed by powdery tannins from judicious extraction. This has more in common with the more refined 2018 and 2019 vintages at this address than with the powerhouse 2020, and that is no mean feat in an even more extreme vintage. Bravo to Ronan Laborde and his team.					
Score: 94-96+						
James Suckling	A very fine and polished red with silky tannins, medium body and a savory finish. Hints of hazelnut to the currant and berry fruit.					
Score: 94-95						
Vinous	The 2022 Clinet is terrific. Vibrant, aromatic and beautifully sculpted, Clinet is also a terrific example of the energy quality-minded winemakers were able to achieve in 2022. Crushed rose petals, spice, blood orange, mint and white pepper give Clinet a compelling upper register of presence in the bouquet. Wonderfully delineated, Clinet builds effortlessly into the mid-palate and finish, where a closing burst of red/purplish fruit framed by clean mineral notes leaves a lasting impression. This is stellar. Tasted two times					
Score: 94-96						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Clos L'Eglise	91-93	94-95	94-96		
Wines Advocate	Offering up aromas of sweet cherries, berries, spices and new oak, the 2022 Clos l'Eglise is medium to full-bodied, broad and layered, with a velvety attack that segues into a vibrant, rather structured mid-palate, concluding with youthfully firm tannins. Incorporating fully 30% Cabernet Franc this year, this is a strong effort, albeit a touch on the liberally extracted side for such a concentrated vintage.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Vibrant structure with lots of energy, with blackberry, hazelnut, coffee and walnut aromas and flavors. So vibrant. Rich and layered. Yet remains bright.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Clos L'Eglise is 70% Merlot and 30% Cabernet Franc, which is a bit more Franc than in the past. Crushed red berry fruit, rose petal, flowers, mint and blood orange are all laced together in a vibrant, sumptuous Pomerol that delivers the goods				
Score: 94-96					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Gazin	92-94+	95-96			
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with aromas of dark berries, licorice, cherries and spices, the 2022 Gazin is medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with excellent depth at the core, sweet tannins and a long, expansive finish. Despite the drought, the vineyards performed better in 2022 than in 2020 at this address, and the result is one of the better vintages for Gazin in recent years.				
Score: 92-94+					
James Suckling	A very juicy and nicely chewy young red with black berry, chocolate and cedar aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied with integrated tannins and a fresh and persistent finish.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Conseillante	97-100	98-99	96-98		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 La Conseillante is a remarkable wine that has the potential to emerge as one of the wines of the vintage. A blend of 87% Merlot and 13% Cabernet Franc, it unfurls in the glass with deep aromas of black raspberries and mulberries mingled with notions of rose petals, violets, orange zest and mint. Medium to full-bodied, deep and layered, it's velvety and enveloping, with a textural attack that segues into a multidimensional mid-palate that's framed by sweet, powdery tannins, concluding with a long, saline finish. Checking in at a very healthy pH of 3.65 and 14% alcohol, it is a beautifully supple, suave wine that retains all this estate's signature elegance but in a slightly deeper-pitched and broader-shouldered format than the profound 2020. Congratulations to winemaker Marielle Cazaux, consulting enologist Thomas Duclos, the Nicolas family led by Jean-Valmy, and all the team at La Conseillante who have firmly established this estate at the very top of Pomerol's qualitative hierarchy in recent vintages.				
Score: 97-100					
James Suckling	This is sensational with extra fine tannins that run the length of the wine. It's medium-bodied with excellent length and so Conseillante in nature. Silky, silky, silky. Creamy texture. Flowers such as violets at the end. Love this. 87% merlot and 13% cabernet franc.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 La Conseillante is simply fabulous and also clearly one of the wines of the year. Rich, racy and enveloping to the core, the 2022 is super-impressive in this tasting. In fact, the 2022 is one of the best recent vintages I can remember tasting. All the elements are so well balanced for a young wine. Readers will find a Pomerol of stature and total class. That's all there is to it. The blend is 87% Merlot and 13% Cabernet Franc. Yields were 33 hectoliters per hectare, about normal these days. For readers who appreciate technical data, the balance of 14% alcohol and 3.66pH is an example of what makes the best wines of 2022 so compelling. This is a superb showing from Technical Director Marielle Cazaux and her team.				
Score: 96-98					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lafleur Gazin	91-93	95-96	91-93		
Wines Advocate	The 2022 Lafleur-Gazin unwinds in the glass with aromas of minty blackberries, cherries, petroleum jelly and licorice. Medium to full-bodied, supple and gourmand, its satiny attack segues into a rich but vibrant core of fleshy, perfumed fruit. Owned by the firm of J-P Moueix since 2020, this is an estate in the ascendant.				
Score: 91-93					
James Suckling	Lots of black olive, currant and orange peel aromas that follow through to a medium to full body with firm and polished tannins, which are fine and focused. Chewy. Plenty of potential. Pure merlot.				
Score: 95-96					
Vinous	The 2022 Lafleur-Gazin shows all of the natural intensity of the year in its ripe fruit profile and voluptuous personality. Soft and curvy, Lafleur-Gazin is more about immediacy than complexity, but it offers plenty of appeal. Succulent red berries, cinnamon, cedar and new leather linger.				
Score: 91-93					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

La Fleur De Gay	87-89	93-94			
Wines Advocate	Aromas of smoked meats, creamy berries and toasty new oak preface the 2022 La Fleur de Gay, a medium to full-bodied, rich and supple wine with a sweet core of fruit and a somewhat cloying, oak-inflected finish.				
Score: 87-89					
James Suckling	A juicy red with medium velvety tannins, medium body and a succulent finish. Pretty persistence.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Nenin	93-95	94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 64% Merlot and 36% Cabernet Franc, the 2022 Nenin delivers aromas of cherries, violets, sweet berries and rose petals, followed by a medium to full-bodied, deep and fleshy palate that's rich, succulent and seamless, its ample core of fruit largely concealing its sweet, powdery tannins.				
Score: 93-95					
James Suckling	A juicy and crunchy red with blackberry, chocolate, hazelnut. Mocha. Full to medium body with a creamy texture. Lots going on here. 64% merlot and 36% cabernet franc.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Nénin is terrific. Pliant, rich and creamy in the glass, the 2022 is a formidable example of the year. Soft, plush contours wrap around a core of red/purplish berry fruit. Touches of blood orange, mint, cinnamon and rose petal lend nuance to this sensual, alluring Pomerol from the Delon family. The 2022 is beautifully done.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Le Bon Pasteur		94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A very solid LBP with a full body and firm and juicy tannins. A little old school but it's opulent and rather decadent with a fresh finish at the end. Shows excellent potential.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Le Bon Pasteur is another impressive wine in a string of recent releases from the château. Bright, vibrant and beautifully perfumed, Le Bon Pasteur is very nicely done. Crushed red berry fruit, chalk, mint, white pepper and cinnamon lend notable brilliance. This mid-weight, juicy Pomerol is a charmer. Moving away from the heavily extracted style of the past is paying off for Le Bon Pasteur. There's still plenty of richness but far more harmonious balance than in some vintages in the not-toodistant past. Tasted three times				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Petit Village		89-91	97-98	91-93		
Wines Advocate	Offering up aromas of dark berries, plum preserve and kirsch, framed by creamy new oak, the 2022 Petit Village is medium to full-bodied, with a sweet, fleshy, somewhat baked core of fruit framed by generously extracted tannins. It appears to be a wine without a very strong sense of identity.					
Score: 89-91						
James Suckling	The black berry, dark chocolate and crushed stone character is really pretty. Full-bodied and solid with fine tannins that spread across the palate. Silky and soft at the end. Very long and fine. Wait and see.					
Score: 97-98						
Vinous	The 2022 Petit-Village comes across as very dark and concentrated. Black cherry, espresso, chocolate, licorice, menthol and tobacco power through. In this tasting, the 2022 comes across as deeply extracted, with a strong oak imprint and bruising tannins. This feels a bit pushed to me.					
Score: 91-93						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

De Sales	90-92	94-95			
Wines Advocate	A strong effort from this large Pomerol property, the 2022 De Sales offers up aromas of red fruits, plums and licorice, followed by a medium to full-bodied, supple and fleshy palate that's ample, layered and velvety, exhibiting a touch more concentration than is habitual at this address without compromising the elegant house style.				
Score: 90-92					
James Suckling	Medium- to full-bodied red with depth and complexity. Layers of fine, creamy tannins and compact structure. Meaty and racy with a lingering finish. Pure dark fruit with hints of chocolate.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

SAUTERNES / BARSAC	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Coutet		93-94			\$48
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Tempting dried fruit here with spice and floral character. Full and creamy with attractive acidity and a textural finish.				
Score: 93-94					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Climens						
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Vinous						
Score:						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

L'Extravagant Doisy Daene (375ml)			93-96			
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Vinous	The 2022 Doisy-Daëne L'Extravagant soars out of the glass with pineapple, crème brûlée, coconut, tangerine oil and candied orange peel. This is an especially rich vintage for L'Extravagant, a Barsac that usually shows a bit more Sauvignon Blanc energy and cut. This clearly needs time.					
Score: 93-96						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Doisy Daene		94-95	93-95		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Dried mangoes and persimmons with dried flowers and exotic spices. Full with vivid acidity and an attractive spicy edge. Long with beautiful fruit.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Doisy-Daëne is all class. Rich, layered and super-expressive. Dried flowers, coconut, chamomile, apricot and dried ginger all grace this deep, beautifully layered Barsac				
Score: 93-95					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Guiraud		94-95	92-94		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A refined and pretty Sauternes with crushed apple, spice and dried pear character. Medium body with a fresh spice and intense finish at the end.				
Score: 94-95					
Vinous	The 2022 Giraud is very beautiful. In this vintage, Giraud is not quite as rich as it can be, and yet it still offers notable depth and nuance. Spice, ginger, orange confit and apricot jam open nicely in a midweight Giraud that shows terrific energy.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Suduiraut		98-99	92-94		\$82
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Wow. This is incredibly concentrated with such depth and power. Dried oranges. Full-bodied with some phenolic tension that frames the wine perfectly. Dried apricots and peaches. Incredible richness and freshness. Spicy and flavorful. Tastes more like a BA from Germany! 100% semillon.				
Score: 98-99					
Vinous	The 2022 Suduiraut is laced with hints of tangerine peel, spice, vanillin, chamomile and dried flowers. It offers a lovely mix of botrytis-inflected flavors and textures while also showing quite a bit of freshness. The 2022 is done in the lighter style the château favors these days. My impression is that it is still coming together, as the wine shows a very slight lack of cohesion that is not typical.				
Score: 92-94					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Rieussec						
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Vinous						
Score:						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Raymond Lafon						
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Vinous						
Score:						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

Carmes De Rieussec						
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Vinous						
Score:						
Wines Spectator						
Score:						

La Tour Blanche		91-92			
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A layered Sauternes with phenolic seriousness and lovely sweetness. Light spiciness at the finish.				
Score: 91-92					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

Lafaurie Peyraguey		99-100			
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Another mind-blowing Sauternes with dense and concentrated fruit, and incredible depth and power. Spices galore. Very sweet. 260 grams residual sugar. Twice the normal year. French TBA? 95% semillon and 5% sauvignon blanc.				
Score: 99-100					
Vinous					
Score:					
Wines Spectator					
Score:					

TERMS & CONDITIONS

* Prices are Ex-Bordeaux

* Payment is immediate upon confirmation of orders by cheque or cash.

* Prices quoted above are valid for one week only from date of Tax Invoice.

* Prices are subject to change without prior notice if payment is not received within one week from date of Tax Invoice and we reserve the right to cancel unpaid orders.

* Additional charges apply where shipment arrangement into Singapore is applicable, approximate charges about S\$25.00 (freight & duties) per 750ml bottle is payable upon collection of wines.

* Orders confirmed and paid are non-refundable and/or non-exchangeable.

* Items are subject to the prevailing rate of GST, payable by customer upon collection of wines.

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