

WINE CULTURE

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BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2025

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

VINTAGE REPORT 2025

Concentrated, ripe and fresh, with moderate alcohol levels (generally 12.5% to 13.5%), striking aromatics and authoritative density, the best 2025s are thrilling wines. Where we described the 2022 vintage as an amplifier—magnifying differences of site, viticulture and winemaking into often larger-than-life expressions—2025 functions as a clarifier. It brings tighter focus to the nuances of terroir, winemaking decisions and style, delivering wines of real concentration (thanks in part to historically low yields) that nevertheless remain more classically proportioned and transparent than their 2022 counterparts.

The low yields of 2025 have their origins in the summer of 2024, when inflorescence primordia (which become next year's flowers) formed in unfavorable conditions, already limiting the size of the future crop. Winter 2024-2025 was mild and mostly dry, with budbreak beginning during a rainy April. Toward the end of the month, dry and sunny weather set in, with flowering occurring rapidly and evenly in late May and early June as the hydric deficit began to accumulate, with below-average rainfall through to the end of August offering only temporary and partial relief.

The lack of water at fruit set (nouaison) limited berry size, with many estates reporting Merlot berries of scarcely more than one gram, and Cabernet Sauvignon at 0.7 to 0.8 grams. The dry and sunny conditions also favored the formation of thick skins, amply charged with tannins and anthocyanins. These conditions—combined with the poor floral initiation—go a long way to explaining the vintage's low yields and, in turn, the style of the wines.

The unusually high solids-to-juice ratio meant that structure and intensity could be taken for granted, and many estates adapted their winemaking accordingly, seeking to avoid excessive extraction of potentially coarse tannins, one of the vintage's pitfalls. Cooler-than-usual fermentations, carefully timed macerations and less intervention (whether pumping over or other techniques) were among the common adjustments.

The harvest took place in good conditions, with no disease pressure, beginning in August for the dry whites, followed by most reds between early to mid-September. As ever, strategies varied, with some privileging what one technical director called "aromatic maturity," while others waited to pursue the suppler tannins and mid-palate depth of true physiological maturity.

Taken as a whole, the vintage unites elements that might appear difficult to reconcile. In many cases, one perceives both the signature of the vintage—its depth and fruit expression—and a clear articulation of site and producer style. Whereas some vintages tend to impose a strong imprint on wines from across the region, 2025 may well be the most transparent, highly differentiated Bordeaux vintage we have ever tasted.

William Kelly, Ropertparker.com

However, despite many Bordeaux vintners calling 2025 a great vintage, the year is inconsistent in quality on many levels. Some winemakers made poor decisions on picking times, grape selection and winemaking techniques, particularly extraction and maceration. Only the best vineyards, wineries and winemakers made great wines, and even some of them may have slightly missed the mark. Most small, unclassified vineyards had difficulty making the sacrifices needed to produce outstanding wines, according to winemakers who make larger regional blends.

It is hard to generalize about such a heterogeneous vintage as 2025. However, the two key elements in the red wines that define the vintage are lower alcohol levels than in recent top years, especially 2022, and higher acidity. Alcohol levels in the reds are mostly between 13 percent and 14 percent, about one degree lower than recent vintages. Moreover, the pH levels are about 3.6 to 3.7 on average, indicating relatively strong acidity for a hot year. That is a big difference from the hot and dry 2022, when pHs were as high as 3.9 to 4.

On paper, most people, including myself, expected the wines to reflect the hot and dry growing season during the summer, which some winemakers said was even more extreme than 2022. However, 2025 had more precipitation than 2022, and it was cooler at the end of the season and during the harvest. The first half of the year had rainy weather, creating a reserve of water for the hot and dry summer. Rain at the end of August also helped revive many red grapes during the growing season and reduced sugar levels, allowing winemakers to make wines with slightly lower alcohol. Others said they waited to pick later to achieve ripeness in their cabernets, even through the rains at the end of September.

The higher acidity in all the wines can be attributed to the large diurnal shift between day and night temperatures, according to many Bordeaux winemakers. Some said temperatures could have been as high as 36 degrees Celsius (96.8 Fahrenheit) during the day before falling to 14 or 15 degrees in the early morning. Whatever the reason for the acidity and lower pH, this acid-fruit balance is evident in the wines. It gives them brilliance and energy when ripe fruit and tannins are behind them.

Some of the best wines in our tastings last week were those picked after the rain on Sept. 20, giving the wines, particularly cabernet, a little more ripeness after a few days and producing slightly plusher wines that were still fresh and vibrant. The fantastic 2025 Château Margaux is a sublime example of that intensity and ripeness, yet there is a gentle, seductive nature that is unique to this paradoxical vintage.

James Suckling, Jamessuckling.com

After a problematic vintage in 2024, Bordeaux bounces back with the 2025s. It's too soon to know where 2025 will land relative to most highly regarded recent vintages, but the finest 2025s are nothing short of thrilling. There is some inconsistency, which is to be expected in a large appellation and in a year with challenges that led to different approaches and decisions. While top names tend to get most of the attention this time of year, readers will find countless gems among Bordeaux's lesser-known châteaux.

Margaux is the star of the vintage, although Pauillac is not far behind. Of course, it's hard to say how much of the performance of an appellation is attributable to the vintage itself as opposed to properties that are raising the bar in terms of quality. I also tasted several truly extraordinary wines on Saint-Émilion's famed clay/limestone plateau. Pomerol is the most uneven appellation, as I will explain later in this report.

Two thousand twenty-five is a year marked by intense heat and drought. One of the most fascinating aspects of the vintage is that alcohols are lower than normal, and quite a bit lower than the norm these days in very hot, dry years. This is especially true on the Left Bank, where many wines come in at around 13% in alcohol. The differences from other hot dry years appear a bit less marked on the Right Bank. Even so, the signature of the finest 2025s is intense flavor and richness married with brisk acids. Many wines are also extremely aromatic. Tannins are generally silky.

Antonio Galloni, Vinous.com

As I have stressed previously, it is important not to treat any growing season as a separate entity. Apropos 2025, that is crucial because the annus horribilis of 2024 laid its foundations. For a start, thanks to the previous year's rain, aquifers were full and gave vines a buffer for the summer drought. Secondly, the initiation florale (which governs the fertility and quantity of bunches the following season) was reduced, so a smaller crop was on the cards. However, there is a contradiction. Received wisdom is that vines seek to compensate for a small crop by over-producing the following season, but in 2024, the conditions were so dire that a knock-on effect was unavoidable.

The winter months of 2024/2025 were mild and dry, though short cold spells from February to mid-March squeezed the brakes and dissuaded vines from racing out of the blocks and exposing themselves to potential frost damage. As such, budbreak occurred during the first ten days of April.

Towards the end of April, conditions turned drier, and many felt relieved that they would avoid the widespread rot that had plagued the previous vintage. On the contrary, it became so warm and dry so that vine growth galloped ahead, especially come the summer-like climes that bedded in from mid-May.

This early-season dry spell was a harbinger for the following four months, which saw nary a raindrop, save for localised thunderstorms in the Médoc and Entre-Deux-Mers. Between March and September, there was only 364 mm of rain, compared to 649 mm in 2024, though that is still more than 2022, which saw just 278 mm. The lack of rain meant that berries remained small

By mid-August, many winemakers feared an even more extreme version of 2022. The first half of the month saw another heat wave with ten days over 35°C, peaking at 42°C. In fact, one château recorded 50°C on the surface of bunches directly exposed to the sun. Two thousand twenty-five is second only to 2003 in terms of days recorded over 35°C. What differentiates those two vintages is that in 2025, the nights cooled off and allowed vines precious hours to recover—a fundamental reason underlying the successful 2025s.

Then the growing season changed course. Heavy rain showers from the tail-end of Hurricane Erin whipped across the region between August 28 and September 2. Amounts varied, heavier in the most maritime-influenced northern Médoc, which saw around 70-80 mm, with around 20-30 mm on the Right Bank. At this point, the vintage spins off in different directions.

Twenty-five ranks amongst the great Bordeaux vintages. Its snow-capped peaks will be uttered in the same breath as legends gone by. Perhaps the Left Bank edges the Right due to the raft of superlative Cabernet. Then again, your palate might never forgive you for ignoring gems that bejewel the choicest parts of Pomerol and Saint-Émilion. The caveat is that 2025 is complex, tricky to really understand, and not necessarily a "crowd-pleasing" vintage. It exaggerates vagaries between terroirs—whether limestone, clay, granite or sand—to create a patchwork of quality, also skewing appellations in different directions. Variations in rainfall paint many different pictures of Bordeaux

Fruit profiles lean more towards black than red—more precisely, blackberry and bilberry rather than say, strawberry and cherry. There is plenty of freshness; acids cut sharper thanks to lower pH levels than anyone expected, so that the best wines possess éclat, or brightness.

Neal Martin, Vinous.com

ST ESTEPHE	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Montrose	RP:98-100	JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:98-100	
Wines Advocate	A timeless classic in the making, the 2025 Montrose unfurls in the glass with notes of dark berries, black truffle, burning embers and violets, gaining in range and detail with aeration. Full-bodied, dense and elegantly muscular, it's layered and multidimensional, with a prodigiously concentrated core of fruit, exceptional quality of tannin and a long, resonant finish. The 2025 is a blend of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc, derived exclusively from the estate's historic core on the fourth terrace situated just in front of the château itself. With a pH of 3.65 and 13.4% alcohol, it remains classically balanced despite its impressive power and intensity. Readers will have a fascinating time parsing the nuances of style and quality between the 2025, 2023 and 2022 over the decades to come!				
Score:98-100					
James Suckling	Integrated and creamy tannins that are long and polished deliver an impressive palate of medium body, juicy fruit and a refined finish. Character of black and red currants with hazelnuts. Refined. Extremely long and polished, with plenty of Montrose character. Balanced. All there for the vintage. A blend of 77% cabernet sauvignon, 19% merlot and 4% cabernet franc				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Montrose is a very quiet, sophisticated Montrose. Silky tannins, lifted aromatics and mid-weight structure are the signatures. Time in the glass brings out lovely red-toned fruit character, along with hints of spice, blood orange, cedar and sweet pipe tobacco. It will be interesting to see how the 2025 develops with elevage. Today, it is a bit on the lighter side relative to the norm here. Some of that may be attributable to winemaking.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Montrose only comes from the Terrace IV, as has been the way since the 2023 vintage. It was picked from August 29 and finished not until September 20, so quite a long harvest, 16 days of picking between those dates. This vintage is matured in 60% new oak. This has another very intense nose with a potent graphite element that infuses the black fruit, beautifully defined but unapologetically classical in style. Wow. The purity of fruit is exceptional. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, very chiselled tannins, exquisite black fruit loaded with minéralité. So much freshness and vibrancy, gentle but insistent grip, very precise and refined on the finish, this is a Montrose that will rank as one for the ages. Wow (again).				
Score:98-100					

La Dame de Montrose	RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:91-93	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with notes of dark berries, fruitcake and spices, the 2025 La Dame de Montrose is medium- to full-bodied, deep and dense, with a lively and layered core of fruit, supple tannins and a bright, sapid finish. It's a blend of 82% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, incorporating maturation in different vessels (20% foudre and 5% amphora) and fewer rackings to maintain a more reductive profile that is better suited to the Merlot-dominant blend.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A brightness and freshness, with red currants and oyster shells. Medium body, with fine tannins and a crunchy, crisp finish. A blend of 82% merlot, 10% cabernet sauvignon, 5% petit verdot and 3% cabernet franc				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Dame de Montrose is an elegant, gracious wine. Crushed flowers, red-toned fruit, cinnamon and pomegranate lend tons of aromatic presence. The fruit is so bright, focused and forward. This is an especially elegant, refined Dame. The blend is Merlot-driven. Elevage is 75% in French oak barrels (15% new), 20% foudre and 5% in amphora.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Dame de Montrose is matured in 15% new oak, lower than before and including some foudres and amphorae, and driven by the 82% Merlot. The nose offers red cherries and crushed strawberry fruit, iodine and violet aromas coming forth with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, slightly chalky, fine tension and a surfeit of freshness towards the finish. This will be wholly irresistible once in bottle and it will require minimal ageing to be enjoyed.				
Score:90-92					

Calon Segur	RP:95-97	JS:95-96	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Calon-Ségur offers up a deep and incipiently complex bouquet of dark berries, rose petals and violets, framed by a deft touch of new oak. Full-bodied, deep and layered, with terrific energy, abundant but ultra refined tannins and a long, penetrating finish, it checks in at a very classically proportioned 13.6% alcohol and pH of 3.6				
Score:95-97					
James Suckling	Aromas of ripe black currants, yet menthol and other fresh herbs come through. Medium body, with firm and slightly chewy tannins and a savory finish. Plenty going on here. 80% cabernet sauvignon, 17% merlot, 2% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Calon Ségur is a total head-turner. Aromatic and structured, the 2025 hits all the right notes. Readers will have to be patient, as the 2025 is packed with intense fruit and equally potent tannins that will need a decade to soften. This is a big, big wine. Here, too, the aromatics are so present, with lingering notes of dried herb, crushed rose petal and mint.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Calon Ségur contains just a little more Merlot this year at 17%, though it is still dominated by the 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, picked between September 4 and 20 over 15 days at 35 hl/ha. It represents 65% of the estate's total production this year. As usual, this is matured entirely in new French oak for a planned 20 months. This has immense clarity and precision on the nose, blackberry and cedar, a little sous-bois, beautifully delineated and more elegant than some recent vintages. The new wood is folded in and barely noticeable even at this early juncture. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy, slightly chalky tannins on the entry. There is quite a conspicuous marine/estuarine element with hints of Japanese nori infusing the black fruit, almost briny in style...I like that. It gives this Calon personality and bandwidth. Classical in style and lower alcohol at 13.6% compared with recent releases (the 2022 was 14.5%), this has a very promising future				
Score:95-97					

Le Marquis de Calon Segur	RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:90-93	NM:89-91	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Le Marquis de Calon-Ségur is a blend of 67% Merlot, 31% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc. Wafting from the glass with notes of blackberries, cassis and iris, it's medium- to full-bodied, deep and concentrated, with supple tannins, lively acids and a penetrating finish.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A firmness and length to this red, with blackberries and spice such as cinnamon on the nose and palate. It's medium-bodied with silky tannins and a vivid finish. 67% merlot, 31% cabernet sauvignon and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is a powerful, dense wine. Dark and somber, with gorgeous depth and plush contours, the Marquis has a lot to offer. Blackberry, gravel, incense, licorice, dried herbs and mocha are all dialed up. All the richness of the year comes through loud and clear, but floral and citrus overtones on the finish provide a measure of balance.				
Score:90-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Marquis de Calon Ségur is the expression of the Merlot at the estate, and there is more in the blend this year than before, around 67%. Matured in 20% new oak, that Merlot obviously sits in the driving seat, delivering juicy redcurrant and wild strawberry scents. The oak is nicely integrated. The palate is medium-bodied, with very malleable tannins, fine acidity, rounded and slightly chalky in texture. Quite linear towards the finish, this is not a flamboyant Saint-Estèphe, though there is already a sense of refinement that will carry it through for 12 to 15 years if you can resist its approachability.				
Score:89-91					

Cos D'Estournel	RP:96-98	JS:98-99	AG:96-99	NM:95-97	\$147
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Cos d'Estournel appears to be one of the finest wines this property has produced in the last decade. Unwinding in the glass with a deep bouquet of dark berry fruit mingled with violets, pencil shavings, burning embers and anise, it's full-bodied, ample and velvety, with a broad attack, layered mid-palate and beautifully fresh, concentrated flavors. All of this terroir's inherent power is present, contained within very classical proportions at 13.3% alcohol. The 2025 is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot.				
Score:96-98					
James Suckling	A density to this, yet it remains balanced and complex, with well-integrated tannins and a juicy finish. It seems to be a wine with lots of fruit, but then it diffuses and shows open-grained, velvety tannins. Intense yet subtle blackberries, lead pencil and hazelnuts. Some flint. Persistent and reserved at the end. Great potential. A blend of 60% cabernet sauvignon, 39% merlot and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Cos d'Estournel is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage. Grand, dramatic and sweeping, with notable textural intensity, the 2025 hits all the right notes. Even in the very early going, the 2025 is magical. Dark red/purplish fruit, spice, new leather, tobacco, lavender and mocha build effortlessly in the glass. More than anything else, I am blown away by the wine's magnificent balance. A masterpiece.				
Score:96-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Cos d'Estournel was picked between September 3 and 19 and matured in 50% new oak, the analytic alcohol at 13.25%. There is just a touch of CO2 on the nose that soon dissipates, gorgeous black plum and damson aromas, pencil lead and light iodine scents all delivered with impressive delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, a hint of cracked black pepper and pencil lead that infuse the layered black fruit. There is a real crescendo of flavours in this Cos d'Estournel, fanning out gloriously towards the sustained finish. This is a serious Saint-Estèphe that will age supremely well in bottle				
Score:95-97					

Les Pagodes de Cos	RP:91-93	JS:94-95	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	\$46
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Les Pagodes de Cos is shaping up beautifully, wafting from the glass with notes of blackberries, cassis and licorice framed by a touch of toasty oak. Medium- to full-bodied, fleshy and supple, with good mid-palate density, sweet tannins and a lively core of fruit, it's a blend of 62% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A juicy and velvety second wine of Cos, with spices and hazelnuts that highlight the dark fruit in this wine. It's medium- to full-bodied with juicy fruit and a flavorful finish. Shows structure, but is integrated and polished. 55% cabernet sauvignon, 34% merlot and 11% cabernet franc.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Les Pagodes de Cos is a huge, somber wine. Blackberry, gravel, licorice, chocolate, incense and cloves hit the palate with serious intensity. Ample and quite dense, the 2025 is super concentrated from start to finish. It's going to need a few years to shed some of its considerable baby fat. This is a gorgeous Pagodes.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Les Pagodes de Cos is fragrant and floral on the nose, with violet and iris petals, and light iodine aromas infusing the black fruit. The palate is medium-bodied, with silky tannins on the entry, very harmonious, with blue fruit and black pepper towards the sensual finish. This will require three or four years in bottle but should mature well over 15 to 18 years				
Score:92-94					

Ormes De Pez	RP:90-92	JS:94-95	AG:89-92	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	Revealing elegant oak alongside dark wild berries and mulberries, with spices emerging with aeration, the 2025 Ormes de Pez is medium- to full-bodied, structured and somewhat firm at this stage. It shows good length and notable freshness, while retaining a dense, well-defined profile.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling	A medium-bodied red with fine tannins and plenty of spice and fruit, with a real sense of St.-Estèphe. Juicy and long. Delicious already for barrel. A blend of 58% merlot, 35% cabernet sauvignon, 4% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Ormes de Pez is redolent of dark cherry, herbs, menthol, tobacco, cedar and iron. This midweight Saint-Estèphe Cru Bourgeois has a lot to offer. Open-knit aromatics and relatively soft tannins suggest the 2025 will drink well pretty much right out of the gate.				
Score:89-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Ormes de Pez was picked 9 to 22 September and matured in 20% new oak barrels. This is very refined on the nose with brambly black fruit, crushed stone and light humidor scents, focused and classically styled. The palate is medium-bodied with sapid black fruit, armed with a fine bead of acidity. Black merges into redder fruit towards the finish with commendable length. This Saint-Estèphe has a newfound fluidity which has taken it up a level. Superb.				
Score:94-96					

De Pez	RP:89-91	JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	Aromas of dark fruit, pencil shavings and toasty oak introduce the 2025 de Pez, a medium- to full-bodied, velvety and concentrated wine with good balance and a youthfully structured finish.				
Score:89-91					
James Suckling	A firm and juicy red with aromas of berries, chocolate and a touch of hazelnuts. It's medium-bodied and rather linear, with some softness to it and savoriness at the end. 56% cabernet sauvignon, 42% merlot and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 de Pez is a very serious wine. Blackberry, menthol, licorice, scorched earth, tobacco and incense are all beautifully amplified in the glass. There's gorgeous textural breadth, complexity and class here. All the elements are so well balanced.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château de Pez, which contains no Petit Verdot this year, is matured in 50% new oak for 18 months. Nicolas Glumineau said that he is trying to make this more refined with "layers of tannins". It has a reserved nose, quite stony/minerally, with hints of graphite percolating through the black fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, unadulteratedly classic in style with an off-dry, quintessentially Saint-Estèphe finish. Tasted twice and, in fact, the second sample from a sample raised in a Cadus barrel with a lower toasting was better				
Score:					

Lafon Rochet	RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:94-96	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Lafon-Rochet reveals a fresh, gourmand bouquet of dark wild berries and blackberry, becoming more floral with aeration. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and structured, it shows a firm profile that is less immediately charming on the palate than the nose suggests. It's built around a fleshy core of fruit that is framed by youthful, finely grained tannins and concludes with a delicate, perfumed finish. It should offer both early approachability and solid aging potential. It's a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, matured in a mix of 15% new oak, 40% foudres and 10% concrete.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A dense, chocolaty and focused red showing generous fruit and bark on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with ripe, chewy tannins. Textural, with nice concentration and a long, vivid, flavorful finish				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lafon-Rochet is classy and polished, as it so often is. Readers will find a Saint-Estèphe of nuance, delineation and understated class. Vibrant blue/purplish fruit, lavender, sage and menthol are some of the many nuances that begin to open with some coaxing. This is classic Lafon-Rochet all the way. Tasted two times				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lafon-Rochet was picked from September 9 to 23 and matured in less new oak than usual, around 15%, with more foudres, 40%, including around one-third new from Stockinger and Taransaud. I think the influence of the new foudres is tangible on the nose and at the moment just masks a little of the fruit profile. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannins, classic and a little austere in style, very Saint-Estèphe with an off-dry finish. I would have liked just a little more sustain and complexity, but it delivers an attractive salinity on the aftertaste.				
Score:91-93					

Phelan Segur		JS:96-97	AG:91-93	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Well composed, structured and nicely framed, with a medium to full body and fine, firm tannins. Textural and slightly chalky on the palate. Solid and focused, with a long, driven finish. A elegant, refine and holistic wine. The shows depth structure and finesse. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot, 3% cabernet franc, and 2% petit verot.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Phélan Ségur is a gorgeous but quiet wine. Hints of dark raspberry, rose petal, mint, spice, mocha and blood orange fill out the layers. The fruit profile is more redleaning than in many years, while the 2025 is on the lighter side structurally. It will be interesting to see what élevage brings. Savory overtones from the Cabernets suggest a bright future. There's certainly plenty to look forward to.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Phélan Ségur was picked between September 10 and 26 at 29 hl/ha, matured in 55% new oak barrels. Again, this is a Saint-Estèphe that is cut in a more mellow and classical style compared to the 2020 or 2022, for example. Mainly black fruit, the Cabernet-dominated scents of cedar and tobacco emerge within a couple of swirls, with just a light touch of tea leaves in the background. The palate is medium-bodied, with fineboned tannins matched by a silver thread of acidity. Very well balanced and unequivocally in the more elegant style, without the concentration or voluptuousness of the 2022. This is more sleek and refined, ergo, an earlier-drinking Phélan Ségur that delivers elegance and refinement. Just a lovely Saint-Estèphe that was presumed vanquished by global warming				
Score:93-95					

Lilian Ladouys	RP:89-91	JS:91-92	AG:90-92	NM:89-91	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Lilian Ladouys reveals a slightly introverted bouquet with notes of cassis and discreet oak. Medium-to full-bodied, juicy and dense, it's built around a structuring tannic frame, concluding with a firm, long and spicy finish. It's a blend of 61% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon and 9% Petit Verdot, matured in 30% new oak.				
Score:89-91					
James Suckling	A balanced and slightly chewy red. Medium-bodied with chewy tannins. Solid at the edges and juicy at the center. Focused finish with a chocolate undertone.				
Score:91-92					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lilian Ladouys is soft, fruity and quite pleasant. Black cherry, new leather, licorice, plum, mocha and dried herbs are front and center. Floral top notes lift the expressive finish. The 2025 is supple and tasty. It will drink well right out of the gate.				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lilian Ladouys is aged in 30% new oak and is dominated by Merlot this year, with 61% of the blend compared to 20% last year. It has an open, quite generous bouquet with bright red cherry, strawberry and even light marmalade scents on the nose. Well defined, though it just needs a little more bandwidth. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, much more density than the previous vintage, gentle grip and a dab of cracked black pepper on the powdery finish. This is an able Saint-Estèphe, albeit one that needs a little more flair.				
Score:89-91					

Capbern	RP:91-93	JS:91-92	AG:90-93	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 Capbern now sports a new label that reflects its historic links to Calons-Ségur. Offering up notes of violets, dark berries and a deft touch of creamy new oak, it's medium- to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with supple, powdery tannins that assert themselves on the youthfully structured finish. It checks in at 13.8% alcohol.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A rich and tannic red with blackberry and blueberry character. Medium-bodied and slightly chewy, but should soften with age. Like eating small berries.				
Score:91-92					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Capbern is an absolute delight. Bold, juicy and super expressive, the 2025 is so showy today. A rush of dark red-toned fruit, new leather, spice, menthol, dried flowers and mocha makes a strong opening statement. Cabernet Sauvignon drives the blend. Capbern is usually pretty burly. The 2025 offers plenty of fruit intensity along with tannins that are more refined than most years. This is such a gorgeous wine. Best of all, Capbern should be a terrific value.				
Score:90-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Capbern comes with a redesigned label that now sports the same heart-shaped motif in order to visibly link it with Calons-Ségur. This was picked from September 4 with the Merlot until September 20, the fastest harvest ever at 15 days since the maturity was already there. Yields are 32 hl/ha and it was matured in 60% new oak barrels, alcohol 13.8% with a 3.25 pH. This has an attractive bouquet with brambly black fruit, briar, cedar and light tea leaf scents that gradually open in the glass. Fine delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, gentle grip, a little chalkiness and plenty of freshness and poise towards the finish. More cohesive than recent vintages, I really appreciate the control and minéralité towards the finish. This is one of the best Capbern releases to date.				
Score:92-94					

PAUILLAC	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Mouton Rothschild	RP:97-99	JS:99-100	AG:96-98	NM:95-07	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 98% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Merlot, the 2025 Mouton Rothschild is a dense, powerful wine, unwinding in the glass with aromas of crème de cassis, blueberries, espresso roast, cigar wrapper and violet. Full-bodied, deep and dense, it's rich, layered and concentrated, with prodigious mid-palate presence and a long, youthfully structured finish. Small berries in Cabernet Sauvignon, below one gram even in the older vines, explain this Mouton's remarkable intensity of flavor. The grand vin represents 52% of the production and checks in at 13.1% alcohol.				
Score:97-99					
James Suckling	A glamorous wine for the vintage, with mesmerizing perfumes of flowers, al dente fruit and citrus flowers. Black currants with some mineral and stone undertones. Medium- to full-bodied with ultra-fine tannins and an endless finish. The tannins lead you on a great trip. It is the most cabernet sauvignon ever used in the blend in recent memory. Balanced and structured. 98% cabernet sauvignon and 2% merlot.				
Score:99-100					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Mouton Rothschild is dense and brooding. Although naturally very, very young, all the elements are so well put together. The 2025 is 98% Cabernet Sauvignon, the most Cabernet ever in the Grand Vin, and that very much comes through in the wine's structure and overall presence. Graphite, lavender, rose petal and menthol build into the rich, heady finish. There's a ton of potential here.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Mouton Rothschild was picked between September 5 and 20 and matured entirely in new oak. It contains the highest Cabernet Sauvignon ever, at 98%. This has a very pure and controlled bouquet, "cool" black fruit, a light estuarine influence (oyster shells shucked down on the beach in Arcachon?) that filter through the blackberry and cassis fruit. Wonderful delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins that feel a little more rounded and suppler than the 2025 Lafite Rothschild tasted just prior. There is a luxuriant aspect, the signature of Mouton Rothschild that differentiates it from the other First Growths, not plush but perhaps a little more flattering at this very early stage thanks to its patina of creaminess. In a sense, it is quintessential Mouton Rothschild and should age extremely well in bottle. 13.1% alcohol.				
Score:95-97					

Le Petit Mouton	RP:91093	JS:95-96	AG:89-91	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Le Petit Mouton offers up aromas of dark berries, mint and toasty new oak, followed by a full-bodied, rich and ample palate that's broad and muscular, built around plenty of sweet, powdery tannin. It's a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 3% Cabernet France and 3% Petit Verdot.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Open and juicy with a plush nature as well as a noticeable ripeness, yet it's only 13% alcohol. Medium- to full-bodied with fine, velvety tannins and a savory, flavorful finish. Juicy and layered. Structured. Plenty of blackberry and blueberry character. A blend of 58% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot, 3% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Petit-Mouton is powerful and dense in the glass, revealing super-ripe black cherry, plum, chocolate, new leather, spice and a healthy kick of French oak. Of all the wines in the Mouton stable, the Petit-Mouton most shows the riper side of the year in both its flavor profile and texture. It will be interesting to see how this develops with élevage. For now, the 2025 is extroverted, leaning towards blowsy. My impression is that the ripeness got away from the team.				
Score:89-91					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Petit-Mouton has a very intense nose, blackberry and cassis mixed with violet and a touch of wild mint. The palate is medium-bodied, with pliant tannins, fine acidity, quite spicy on the mid-palate with a liberal sprinkling of black pepper, nicely focused with a classically styled finish. It will need two to three years in bottle.				
Score:91-93					

Lafite Rothschild	RP:95-97	JS:99-100	AG:97-99	NM:98-100	\$588
Wines Advocate	A blend of 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Lafite Rothschild unwinds in the glass with a deep and brooding bouquet of dark berries, violets, rose petals and pencil lead. Medium- to full-bodied, supple and layered, with suave tannins, good concentration and bright acidity, it checks in at 12.5% alcohol and an unusually low (by the standards of recent warm vintages at Lafite) pH of 3.65. Harvest began here on September 2, with the estate's old-vine Merlot beginning on September 3 and the first Cabernet Sauvignon coming in from September 11 (earlier than in 2022), and the harvest wrapped up on September 20.				
Score:95-97					
James Suckling	Intense aromas of sweet tobacco, dark cedar, cigar humidior, mushroom, roses, and wet earth follow through to a medium to full body with firm, velvety tannins and a driven, intense finish. Very structured with bones. Reminds me of Lafite from the 1980s. Unique for the vintage. 12.5% alcohol. A blend of 94% cabernet sauvignon, 5% merlot and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:99-100					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lafite-Rothschild is powerful and explosive in the glass. Dark cherry/plum fruit, graphite, new leather, graphite, licorice and lavender race across the palate. A Pauillac of mid-weight structure, the 2025 impresses with its tension and deep, layered personality. Even in the early going, the Grand Vin is so vivid, so expressive. I can't wait to taste it in finished form. For those who love the data.				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lafite-Rothschild was cropped at 27 hl/ha between September 2 and 20. Eric Kohler mentioned that, unlike 2022, it underwent a longer maceration than usual because, after 24 days, he felt the wine was at ease with itself and there was no excess. That comes through completely on the deliriously intoxicating nose, replete with nuanced blackberry, bilberry and estuarine scents, all beautifully defined and seamlessly integrated with the 90% new oak that is made from Lafite's own cooper. The palate is mediumbodied with finely chiselled tannins. It is blessed with extraordinary harmony and it is so well balanced that you almost overlook the weight and minéralité towards the finish. Just a dab of graphite lingers on the aftertaste. This is a very succinct and refined LafiteRothschild that I suspect will drink earlier than the 2022, yet will age with equal grace in bottle. I admit that, upon returning to my car, it was only then that I realised what a brilliant wine the 2025 Lafite-Rothschild is destined to become.				
Score:98-100					

Carruades Lafite	RP:91-93	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	\$240
Wines Advocate	A blend of 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 9% Cabernet France and 2% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Carruades de Lafite exhibits notes of sweet plums and berries mingled with notions of orange zest, cedar and cigar wrapper. Medium- to full-bodied, supple and fleshy, with powdery tannins, lively acids and a gently chalky finish, it checks in at 12.5% alcohol.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A tight and linear red with red currant, sweet tobacco and cedar aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, fine and creamy tannins. Bright finish. Extremely fine texture for the second wine of Lafite. Typical character of Carruades. A blend of 55% cabernet sauvignon, 34% merlot, 9% cabernet franc and 2% petit verdot.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Carruades de Lafite is a total stunner. It's a great example of how Bordeaux has come along in the last few decades, in that it could have easily been a Grand Vin from another generation—maybe not from a great year, but from many years. Brisk acids and strong floral overtones immediately convey energy. Hints of lavender, rose petal, graphite and spice box are classic Lafite; all the Carruades lacks vis-à-vis its sibling is th classic Lafite mid-palate. This should blossom beautifully with time, and I would be in no rush to open it. What a delight.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Carruades de Lafite has quite an understated bouquet that needs a little more encouragement than usual. Blackberry, pencil box and light estuarine scents gradually unfurl. Fine delineation. The palate is medium-bodied, with sapid black fruit on the entry, gentle grip, wonderful balance and plenty of freshness and brightness on the finish. What a superb Carruades.				
Score:92-94					

Grand Puy Lacoste	RP:95-97	JS:96-97	AG:92-94	NM:94-96	\$66
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Grand-Puy-Lacoste reveals a classic, refined bouquet of cassis, dark berries, cedar and lead pencil, with discreet floral nuances. Medium- to full-bodied, structured and precise, it's built around a well-defined core of fruit framed by finely grained, youthful, filigreed tannins with a tensile profile. Less demonstrative than some of its peers in Pauillac, it privileges balance and typicity over sheer power, concluding with a long, elegant and mineral finish. Produced from a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Merlot, this is the first vintage vinified in the estate's new gravity-fed cellar, enabling more precise parcel selection—an evolution that appears to reinforce the wine's precision and coherence.				
Score:95-97					
James Suckling	Excellent GPL, medium- to full-bodied with a great expression of dark fruit that is evenly distributed. It's fresh and precise with grainy, integrated tannins that should only integrate more. A blend of 76% cabernet sauvignon and 24% merlot.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Grand-Puy-Lacoste is a relatively fruity, soft wine for the château, notwithstanding the warm, dry year and yields 30 hectoliters per hectare (in line with the appellation, but much less than the norm). This is the first vintage Grand-Puy-Lacoste made in their new cellar, so the more vibrant style is not a total surprise. Even so, there is no question that 2025 opens the door to a new chapter. Stylistically, it is quite different from the wines that have preceded it				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Grand-Puy-Lacoste is the first to be made in the new gravity-fed winery. It was picked between September 4 and 18 at 30 hl/ha, much lower than normal, with a high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon (76%). Matured in 65% new oak, it has a perfumed bouquet with blackberry and raspberry fruit, touches of graphite emerging with aeration, beautifully defined. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannins. Definitely one of the most refined GPLs that I have tasted at this stage, very harmonious, complex and engaging. Superb persistence on the finish, this is a complete Pauillac that is going to give immense pleasure.				
Score:94-96					

Lynch Bages	RP:94-97	JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:96-98	\$116
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Lynch-Bages wafts from the glass with aromas of dark wild berries, lead pencil and spices, framed by well-integrated new oak. Full-bodied, dense and concentrated, it's deep and muscular, with a broad-shouldered profile, yet more velvety and precise than usual, showing a touch of freshness through the mid-palate, concluding with a long, cassis-inflected finish. Without departing from its customary style—combining power and generosity in youth—it is more approachable en primeur, with softer, more polished tannins than in recent vintages. This is a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, matured with 75% new oak.				
Score:94-97					
James Suckling	Lots of great energy, with a precision and focus that sends you down the road to gorgeous dark fruits and mineral nuances. A cool, minty note. Medium- to full-bodied. Racy and intense, with a lightness at the end. Juicy fruit, too. A blend of 66% cabernet sauvignon, 28% merlot, 3% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lynch-Bages is a wine only very patient consumers should contemplate. Dark and explosive, with incisive tannins, the 2025 is quite the powerhouse. Huge beams of tannin lend serious intensity and power. In many warmer years, this level of richness is accompanied by commensurately high alcohols and viscosity, but the 2025 is built around fairly classic lines, which only reinforces its sheer brawn.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lynch-Bages was picked 9 to 21 September and matured in 75% new oak barrels. This has a stunning bouquet with exceptionally pure blackberry, cassis and subtle violet scents, the oak seamlessly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with finely embroidered tannins, perfect acidity, a touch of cedar and black pepper that dovetails into a peacock's tail finish that "clings" to the mouth. This continues the strongest run from Lynch-Bages since the 1980s and, perhaps with the 2025, it is close to surpassing that.				
Score:96-98					

Echo de Lynch Bages	RP:90-91	JS:93-94	AG:91-93	NM:89-91	\$44
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Echo de Lynch-Bages reveals aromas of vanilla, spices, creamy new oak and dark berries. Medium-to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, it's built around a solid chassis of firm, youthful tannins, concluding with a long, spicy finish. It's a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot and 1% Cabernet Franc, matured with 20% new oak.				
Score:90-91					
James Suckling	A solid wine with firm and racy tannins, with dark berries, cherries and black currants. Medium-bodied with creamy tannins and an intense finish. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 34% merlot and 1% cabernet franc.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Echo de Lynch-Bages is a pretty serious second wine that is going to need a number of years to soften. Quite frankly, I don't think I have ever tasted an Echo with this much power and overall structure. Dark-fleshed fruit, gravel, incense, licorice and scorched earth convey gravitas. There's a lot of wine here, but patience is required.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Echo de Lynch-Bages, matured in 20% new oak, has a little more rondeur and opulence compared with the Haut-Batailley, emanating from that 34% Merlot. The palate is quite full and voluminous in the mouth, grippy with slightly chalky tannins enveloped in black plum and blackcurrant fruit. It segues into a quite peppery finish that tingles on the aftertaste. Give it a couple of years in bottle.				
Score:89-91					

Pichon Lalande	RP:94-96	JS:97-98	AG:96-98	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is showing well, opening in the glass with notes of cassis, blackberries, cigar wrapper and iris, becoming more fragrant with aeration. Medium- to full-bodied, deep and layered, with plenty of powdery tannin that asserts itself on the youthfully structured finish, it's a blend of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	A bright and vivid red with so much perfume. Aromas of black currants and violets that follow through to a medium body with fine, linear tannins that are long and very refined. Tannin-driven but caressing. Racy and elegant, with structure. 81% cabernet sauvignon, 15% merlot and 4% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is a total stunner. A wine of depth and intensity, it soars out of the glass with layers of nuance and complexity. The 2025 has it all: aromatics, fruit density and structure to match. Pichon Comtesse is shaping up to be one of the wines of the vintage.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande was picked from August 28, the earliest ever, finishing on September 23, matured in 66% new oak, the rest one-year-old. It has a taut and linear nose, very classic in style, graphite/pencil lead scents that permeate the black fruit. Beautiful delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with filigree tannins. A little more structured and austere than the more Merlot-driven vintages of old. Yet as it unfurls in the glass, it reveals the level of sophistication and precision you now come to expect from this Pauillac Second Growth. At 13.1% alcohol, this is lower than other recent vintages.				
Score:95-97					

Pichon Comtesse Reserve	RP:90-92		AG:90-92	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate	Aromas of dark berries, rose petals, pencil shavings and blood orange introduce the 2025 Réserve de la Comtesse, a medium- to full-bodied, deep and nicely balanced wine (weighing in at 13%) with good mid-palate density, ripe tannins and a pure finish.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Réserve de la Comtesse is all class, all finesse. Open-knit floral overtones and silky, polished tannins announce a Réserve that is more about restraint than power. Rose petal, dark red cherry, plum, mocha, new leather and licorice build with time in the glass. There's plenty of textural depth in the captivating Réserve.				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pichon Comtesse Réserve comes in at 13% alcohol this year, with no Cabernet Franc, which is all in the Grand Vin this year, something that Nicolas Glumineau said was a surprise given the growing season. There is a palpable estuarine influence on the nose, blackberry and bilberry fruit, touches of violet in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, a fine bead of acidity, very harmonious, with a tingle of cracked black pepper on the finish. Again, a very classically styled "cool" Pauillac.				
Score:90-92					

Pichon Baron	RP:96-98	JS:96-97	AG:96-98	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	A brilliant achievement, the 2025 Pichon-Longueville Baron, a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Merlot (70% new oak), features a notably high proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon for a warm vintage, exceeding that of 2020 and 2022. It reveals a refined bouquet of dark wild berries, cassis, spice, lead pencil and licorice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, it's built around a fleshy, finely structured core of fruit with a distinctly Cabernet-driven profile, combining freshness and tension with notable depth. It should age gracefully over the next two to three decades.				
Score:96-98					
James Suckling	A very structured red with intense tannins, finishing polished and refined. It's medium-to-full-bodied with super creamy tannins and a long finish. Granular tannins.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	Silky, aromatic and layered in the glass, the 2025 Pichon Baron is a total stunner. What a wine. Sweet red cherry/plum fruit, blood orange and rose petal are some of the many notes that caress the palate. Hints of pomegranate, mint and exotic spice appear later, adding layers of nuance. The wine's striking mid-palate sweetness and overall balance are the stuff dreams are made of. This is exquisite. Yields were just 24 hectoliters per hectare. The 2025 is expected to spend 18 months in French oak, 70% new.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pichon Baron was picked over 16 days between September 8 and 24 at just 24 hl/ha, matured in 70% new oak. Like the Les Griffons, it has a subtle estuarine/sea spray element that intertwines with the mélange of red and black fruit. The Merlot is actually more expressive than recent vintages. The palate is medium-bodied, with grainy tannins, lovely crispness and elegance, gaining depth as it moves into its final third. Slightly chalky tannins (a leitmotif of the vintage, especially in Pauillac), gentle grip, with an almost mellow finish, suggest that it might be earlier drinking than the 2019 or 2022. Superb.				
Score:95-97					

Clerc Milon	RP:93-95	JS:94-95	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	\$89
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Clerc Milon has turned out beautifully, offering up notes of dark berries, petals and orange zest, framed by a deft touch of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, with lively acids and a chalky finish, it's a blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and the rest Carmenère and Petit Verdot.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	A juicy and structured Clerc that is very typical with a firmness and brightness. It's medium-bodied with a solid center palate and a linear and racy finish. Just a hint of flint in the end. Vivid and pretty. A blend of 62% cabernet sauvignon, 28% merlot, 8% cabernet franc, 1% carmenere and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clerc Milon is powerful and explosive in the glass. A rush of dark red/purplish fruit, lavender, rose petal, mocha, new leather and a kiss of new oak makes a strong first impression. Supple and quite potent, with tons of energy, the Clerc Milon is impeccable in 2025				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clerc Milon was picked from September 3 to 19 and matured in 55% new oak. The oak shows a little more than the d'Armailhac at the moment, though that will be subsumed with time. I suspect it will need longer bottle age to fully integrate. The palate is very rounded and supple on the entry, a mixture of red and black fruit, a little white pepper and tobacco, gaining more weight towards the finish with a sustained aftertaste. I feel this might have the edge over the d'Armailhac this vintage—let's see				
Score:92-94					

Haut Batailley	RP:92-94	JS:94-95	AG:93-95	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	Matured in 55% new barrels, the 2025 Haut-Batailley wafts from the glass with aromas of dark wild berries, spices, flowers and licorice, complemented by elegant notes of violet. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and concentrated, it's built around a fleshy core of fruit framed by velvety tannins, concluding with a long, spicy and taut finish. A very fine wine in the making, it expresses a classical Médoc profile, notably with a fresh, subtly mentholated note on the finish. It's a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 37% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	Medium- to full-bodied with well-placed tannins, a savory element and firm yet fine-grained tannins that add definition. Juicy and precise finish				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Batailley is a brooding young Pauillac with a bright future. Dark and brooding, with tons of vertical energy, Haut-Batailley is quite the powerhouse. Black fruit, leather, incense, licorice, dried herbs and mocha are some of the many aromas and flavors that gradually open in the glass. Readers will have to be quite patient, as the tannins are rather imposing, but there's more than enough fruit density to balance things out.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Batailley was picked between September 8 and 18, matured in 55% new oak. This has a more intense, bolder nose than the Verso, graphite-infused black fruit that is Pauillac through and through. Razor-sharp. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, but there is gentle and insistent grip. Sapid, an Haut Batailley that evokes images of the Gironde Estuary, this is a marvellous contribution to the vintage, perhaps the best under Jean-Charles Cazes.				
Score:95-97					

D'Armailhac	RP:91-93	JS:95-96	AG:89-91	NN:91-93	\$53
Wines Advocate	A blend of 67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot, the 2025 d'Armailhac bursts with aromas of dark berries, violets and lilac. Medium- to full-bodied, with a sweet core of fruit, tangy acids and a youthfully chewy finish, this is a comparatively structured young d'Armailhac.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Very polished, with fine tannins that caress your palate while the fruit is ripe but al dente, with red currants, plums and peach undertones. Medium body. Refined and intense finish. 67% cabernet sauvignon, 21%, 10% cabernet franc, and 2% petit verdot.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 d'Armailhac is powerful and tightly wound. Brisk acids and incisive tannins shape a young Pauillac that is going to need at least a few years in bottle to come together. There's gorgeous energy and tension here. It's a classic d'Armailhac that leans into Cabernet Sauvignon, with an extra burst of red and blood orange-tinged fruit that really comes alive over time. That's a very appealing combination in my book.				
Score: 89-91					
Neal Martin	The 2025 d'Armailhac was picked between September 9 and 20 and matured in 50% new oak. This has fine definition and purity on the nose, though perhaps it does not quite grab you like some recent vintages. This plays it "cool". The palate is medium-bodied with fine, slightly grainy tannins that frame the blackberry and cassis fruit. Quite peppery on the finish, less flamboyant than some vintages, though very refined and quite long. Good potential. Maybe it has something up its sleeve?				
Score:91-93					

Duhart-Milon	RP:93-95	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	\$84
Wines Advocate	A blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot, the 2025 Duhart-Milon is a lovely classic in the making, offering up notes of wild blueberries, cassis, rose petals and orange zest, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, pure and polished palate that's lively, harmonious and suave. It checks in at a modest 12.5% alcohol.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	A juicy and savory red with blackberry, chocolate, dried meat and earth aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied with plenty of flavor and a forest floor aftertaste. Ripe tannins. A blend of 73% cabernet sauvignon and 27% merlot				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Duhart-Milon offers a captivating mix of brilliant red-toned fruit, blood orange, pomegranate and wild flowers. Readers will find a Duhart that bristles with energy. The purity of the flavors is just captivating. It's one of my favorite recent vintages here because of its vibrancy and textural finesse. The blend is 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot, picked from early to mid-September, always a few days later than at Lafite.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Duhart-Milon was picked from September 4 to 22. It has a very delineated and quite mineral-driven bouquet, very focused with beautifully integrated oak. The palate is medium-bodied with chiselled tannins, layered graphite-infused black fruit and a strict and linear, sapid finish that could only come from Pauillac. Almost a minimalist DuhartMilon in some ways, but less is more.				
Score:92-94					

Pibran						
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling						
Score:						
Antonio Galloni						
Score:						
Neal Martin	There is no Pibran this year; the fruit has been blended into Les Tourelles and Les Griffons.					
Score:						

Grand Puy Ducasse		JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	\$44
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Medium- to full-bodied with precise, delineated fruit. There is a savory touch and a firm finish, with overall balance between structure and fruit. Finesse through but plenty behind. A blend of 66% cabernet sauvignon, 31% merlot and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Grand Puy Ducasse is a gorgeous, racy wine. Silky red/purplish fruit, lavender, rose petal build in the glass. More than anything else, the wine's balance is terrific. Grand Puy Ducasse remains a bold, fruity Pauillac, but its balance is commendable. All the elements are so well proportioned				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Grand Puy Ducasse has a very succinct nose. At first, it feels maybe a bit underpowered, yet with a few swirls it reveals gorgeous blackberry, cedar and violet scents that blossom over time. The palate is medium-bodied with very lithe and supple tannins, well-judged acidity and commendable cohesion on the finish. This vastly improved Pauillac should be more approachable than some of its peers, yet it has the substance to age in bottle.				
Score:92-94					

Pontet Canet	RP:98-100	JS:97-98	AG:96-98+	NM:94-96	\$106
Wines Advocate	A blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot that weighs in at 13.3% alcohol, the 2025 Pontet-Canet is one of the finest wines this estate has produced. Wafting from the glass with aromas of sweet cassis, wild berries and plums mingled with notions of violet and burning embers, it's full-bodied, ample and velvety, with a degree of structural polish and sensuality that is rare in the Médoc, ripe acids and a long, penetrating finish. Over the last handful of years, technical director Mathieu Bessonnet and his team have revitalized Pontet-Canet's vineyards with well-timed soil work and precise phytosanitary treatments; and since 2023, the careful use of "pieds de cuve" in the winery, along with early blending, more refined barrel choices and cooler temperatures in the chai—plus more precise bottling practices—have conspired to take this estate to new heights of quality and consistency. In 2025, the team formed lower-than-usual "ponts" (whereby the canopies of adjacent vines are braided together in an arch) to retain denser foliage to protect the fruiting zone from sunshine, and they waited to pick late in pursuit of full maturity in Cabernet Sauvignon, finishing on September 23. The result is one of the wines of the vintage.				
Score:98-100					
James Suckling	A precise and beautiful wine with total integration of the fruit and polished tannins that give a caressing and seductive mouthfeel. It's medium-bodied with lovely fruit, a gentle nature and an overall softness and gorgeousness. Yet structured.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pontet-Canet is a wine of exquisite class. Silky, aromatic and vibrant, the 2025 is all finesse. Crushed red/purplish fruit, lavender, rose petal and a gentle hint of spice are all wonderfully knit together. Pontet-Canet is one of the more refined, sublimely beautiful wines of the year. This could turn out better than my note suggests. Tasted two times.				
Score:96-98+					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pontet-Canet was picked between September 2 and 23 and matured in 50% new oak barrels, 35% amphorae and 15% used barrel. The alcohol this year is 13.3%. This has a more fruit-driven bouquet than its peers, with upfront blackberry and blueberry fruit, a little floral in style, with hints of pressed violet that emerge with aeration. Fine delineation. This is finely balanced, quite flinty on the back palate, edgy with pleasing focus. Just a touch of black pepper towards the composed finish. Just the right amount of grip here. Not quite as long as you would find in warmer vintages, but that is moot because of the freshness and brightness in this Pontet Canet.				
Score:94-96					

Aile D'Argent	RP:90-92	JS:96-97	AG:91-93	NM:88-90	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Aile d'Argent, a blend of 63% Sauvignon Blanc, 29% Sémillon, 7% Sauvignon Gris and 1% Muscadelle, all matured in 45% new oak, reveals aromas of confit citrus and pear, with a slightly more white-fruited profile than usual. Medium-bodied, juicy, straight and tense, it's fresh and ethereal, concluding with subtle clove notes on the finish. It's a well-crafted and elegant rendition.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling	A serious Aile d'Argent with sliced green mangoes, pears and green apples. Full-bodied. Framed with phenolics and minerals. Complex and real. A touch of flint and cedar at the end. Super finish. A blend of 63% sauvignon blanc, 29% semillon, 7% sauvignon gris and 1% muscadelle.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Aile d'Argent is potent and deep. The blend is Sauvignon Blanc-based, but that is not especially evident in the early going. Citrus confit, white flowers, mint and chalk open with a bit of time in the glass. The team, led by Technical Director Jean-Emmanuel Danjoy, opted for a bit more bâtonnage to compensate for the early harvest, a choice that paid off handsomely. The 2025 is a serious Aile d'Argent for the dinner table				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Aile d'Argent was picked from August 19 to 28. My sample was taken from the primary lees and has six weeks more lees-stirring than normal. It has a relatively light nose with apple blossom and Conference pear scents—it just needs a tad more vigour. The palate is well balanced with crisp acidity, bright and malic with green apple and gooseberry from the Sauvignon Blanc, though not long in the mouth like some other dry whites. But perfectly fine. 13.6% alcohol.				
Score:88-90					

Haut Bages Libéral		JS:96-97	AG:93-96	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Bright and vivid on the nose and palate, with blackberries, black currants, raspberries and violets. It's medium-bodied with firm and racy tannins and a salty undertone in the finish, Such real energy. From biodynamically grown grapes with Demeter certification.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Bages Libéral is a powerful, tightly wound wine. Bright acids and beams of tannin are front and center. In this tasting, it is driven and also very shut down. The saline-drenched finish reverberates with tension. Intense red-toned fruit, chalk, mint, white pepper and blood orange fill out the layers				
Score:92-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Bages Libéral was picked at 32 hl/ha between September 8 and 18 and matured in 35% new oak with 30% in concrete ovoid tanks. What distinguishes this property is that half the vines lie on limestone soils, which is unusual in Pauillac. This has clearly the most beguiling aromatics among the three wines that I tasted with Claire Villars-Lurton, with pure black cherries, cassis and violet scents that burst from the glass. Wonderful delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, a silver thread of acidity and, crucially, that tingle from the limestone soils that defines the finish. What a superb and distinctive Pauillac this is.				
Score:93-95					

Pedesclaux	RP:91-93	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:88-90	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Pedésclaux reveals aromas of dark wild berries, cassis, blackberry and floral notes, combining freshness with approachability. Medium- to full-bodied, it's structured yet enveloping, built around a juicy core of fruit framed by a firm tannic structure and concludes with a long, perfumed and somewhat firm finish. A blend of 69% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, it is being matured in 50% new oak, with a significant proportion in 400-liter barrels rather than standard barriques.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Lots of purity, with freshness and a linear, evenly distributed dark fruit profile. There is elegance and a chewy texture that's precise and focused, with good definition.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pédesclaux is powerful, rich and expansive, yet it retains striking finesse to temper all of the natural intensity of this warm, dry year. Pédesclaux certainly has a lot to offer. Lifted floral notes, silky contours and gorgeous blue/purplish fruit are some of the signatures that grace this expressive, generous Pauillac. Tasted two times.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pédesclaux was picked from September 8 to 19, finishing with the Petit Verdot. It has a sorbet-fresh nose, more red than black fruit, touches of pine emerging, a little natural in style. The palate is medium-bodied with firm and slightly coarse tannins. Quite grippy, peppery, but I find the finish missing some substance and precision. Hopefully, it will gain a little more complexity during its barrel maturation.				
Score:88-90					

ST JULIEN	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Leoville Las Cases	RP:96-98	JS:98-99	AG:96-98	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	One of the most serious, brooding wines of the vintage is the 2025 Léoville Las Cases, a blend of 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc and 6% Merlot. Unfurling in the glass with aromas of dark berries, plums, pencil shavings and creamy new oak, it's medium- to full-bodied, deep and dense, with prodigious reserves of sweet but assertive tannin, lively acids and a long, muscular finish. This will require patience.				
Score:96-98					
James Suckling	The texture is fantastic, with superb aromas of graphite, blackberries and blueberries. Medium- to full-bodied with tannins that are pure and primary, like eating perfectly ripe grapes. It's the high quality of the tannins. A very classic Las Cases. 82% cabernet sauvignon, 12% cabernet franc and 6% merlot.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Léoville Las Cases is powerful, tightly wound and very shut down—in other words, classic Las Cases. In some recent vintages, the Grand Vin has shown somewhat softer contours, but the 2025 is really a throwback to a more muscular, classically austere style. It offers tremendous persistence and sheer power, but beyond that, the wine is pretty hard to read in the early going, certainly much more so than any of the other wines in the Delon stable. I expect this will need many years to be at its most rewarding. Based on this en primeur sample, the 202 is a wine for readers who have actuarial tables on their side.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Léoville Las Cases is the earliest harvest since 1989, starting on September 5 until September 20. Yields are 23 hl/ha, with a soft extraction using air pumps introduced in 2019, and it was matured in 80% new oak. It is the third vintage made in the new, impressive facility. This has another intense nose, quite flamboyant for Las Cases due to the warmth of the summer, with hints of pencil shavings and cigar box coming through with time. The palate is medium-bodied but very concentrated. Real depth and density here, very primal, with an intense, multi-layered finish that coats the mouth. Not a subtle Las Cases, nor should it be, though I aver that it will oblige long-term ageing.				
Score:96-98					

Leoville Barton	RP:93-95	JS:95-96	AG:94-96	NM:95-97	\$92
Wines Advocate	Another wine that will appeal to purists, the 2025 Léoville Barton offers up notes of crème de cassis, violets, pencils shavings and new oak, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, taut and penetrating palate that's racy and youthfully structured, with a concentrated mid-palate that reflects the very low yields (22 hectoliters per hectare) this year. It's a blend of 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc, harvested between September 4 and 18.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	Dark ripe fruit and a touch of licorice on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with a firm tannic structure on the palate, showing dark fruit, chocolate and walnut flavors				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Léoville Barton is one of my early favorites of the vintage. It carries all the textural intensity and richness of a vintage with paltry yields. As such, it is not an especially classic Léoville Barton, but it is undeniably gorgeous. Black fruit, gravel, chocolate, new leather and licorice add to an impression of gravitas. As always, there's a healthy amount of press wine in the blend. Readers will have to be patient with the 2025, but there's a lot of potential. Tasted two times.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Léoville Barton was picked between 4 September and 18 September and matured in 60% new oak barrels. This has an exquisite bouquet already, with ebullient blackberry and bilberry scents, beautifully integrated oak, keeping the DNA of Leoville Barton despite the warm summer. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, gentle grip, very pure fruit and a "cool" and focused finish. With lower alcohol, between 13.0 and 13.5%, the terroir really shows through here. Superb.				
Score:95-97					

Leoville Poyferre		RP:91-93	JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:95-97
Wines Advocate	Shy and introverted at this stage, the 2025 Léoville Poyferré reveals a somber bouquet of oak, spice, licorice and ripe dark berries. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and deep, it's broad-shouldered and structured, built around a creamy new-oak mid-palate framed by an abundant tannic chassis that carries through to a spicy, oak-influenced finish.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Beautiful on the nose. Stylish and concentrated, medium- to full-bodied, with freshness and a savory note in the finish. Cohesive and precise, with fine-grained, focused tannins. Very structured at the end. A solid and bracing Medoc				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Léoville-Poyferré is gorgeous. Rich and juicy, with striking mid-palate pliancy, the Grand Vin shows the vintage at its finest. That is immediately evident in its plush contours and impeccable balance. Dark red/purplish fruit, rose petal, lavender, menthol and mocha flesh out in the glass, filling out the layers effortlessly. The 2025 is a sensual Grand Vin.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Léoville-Poyferré was picked from September 8 to 23 at just 20.3 hl/ha, undergoing a six-day cold pre-fermentation maceration and matured in 80% new oak. This is quintessential Poyferré on the nose, quite sensual and pure in style, with layers of ripe black fruit, black plum, a hint of camphor and violet. Wonderful delineation. The palate is framed by fine tannins, beautifully balanced, again quite minerally in style, with a precise and persistent graphite-tinged finish. If you love Poyferré, then you are going to adore this				
Score:95-97					

Ducru Beaucaillou			AG:96-99		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Ducru-Beaucaillou is fabulous. Vibrant red/purplish fruit, rose petal, lavender, mint and blood orange are all beautifully sculpted. The purity of the fruit is just remarkable. New oak is 100%, but lower toast levels and a more dialed-in approach here are palpable. Gorgeous floral and savory Cabernet top notes lift the finish. Superb, and one of the highlights of the year, Ducru is absolutely stunning in 2025.				
Score:96-99					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Beychevelle	RP:92-93	JS:95-96	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Beychevelle reveals a toasty, oak-marked bouquet of dark wild berries, licorice and spice. Medium- to full-bodied, structured and concentrated, it's built around an assertive tannic frame, concluding with a long, spicy, licorice-inflected finish. While the wine is marked by both concentration and oak at this stage, élevage may bring greater finesse and a more integrated, enveloping tannic profile.				
Score:92-93					
James Suckling	Spicy, with dark fruit aromas. Angular in style, with a linear profile and precise, focused tannins. It shows clarity, fresh dark fruit and balance that stands out.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Beychevelle is a very sexy wine. Plush and exuberant, the 2025 is seriously impressive right out of the gate. Blackberry, lavender, mocha, crème de cassis and a kick of French oak are all beautifully amplified in the glass. The blend is 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, with the plush richness of the Merlot very much in evidence. There's a lot of wine here. The 2025 spent three weeks on the skins, more or less the norm here, but it also includes 13% press wine, a bit higher than most years. More than anything else, the 2025 is a wine of extreme pleasure. It is an exceptional Beychevelle, one of the finest in recent memory.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Beychevelle was picked from September 5 to 21 at 31 hl/ha, fairly reasonable for Saint-Julien this year, albeit the second lowest after 2013. Matured in 70% new oak, this has a concentrated nose with blackcurrants, blueberry, inkwell and light violet scents. Very fine definition, a Beychevelle that leans on the more opulent side aromatically, though always controlled. The palate is medium-bodied with a velvety smooth entry that lends it sensuality. Extremely precise, exquisite pure fruit, quite mineral-driven with a very long, quite sensual finish. I don't think Philippe Blanc has overseen a Beychevelle as good as this. 13.4% alcohol.				
Score:95-97					

Langoa Barton	RP:92-94	JE:94-95	AG:91-93	NM:92-94	\$50
Wines Advocate	Cropped at a mere 20 hectoliters per hectare, one of the lowest yields ever recorded at this address, the 2025 Langoa Barton offers up aromas of dark berries, pencil shavings, spices and new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, with bright acids and chalky tannins, it's a blend of 45% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon and 15% Cabernet Franc.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	Focused, with volume and drive, it shows aromas of berries, warm spices and some leather. Medium- to full-bodied with fine, firm tannins. Structured and compact, with bright fruit at its core. Long, focused finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Langoa-Barton is a very racy wine. Plush contours and vibrant dark red/purplish fruit are the signatures. Crushed flowers, cinnamon, red plum, blood orange and dried herbs open nicely in the glass. Floral overtones brighten the finish. This midweight, fruity, Merlot-driven Saint-Julien is all charm. It should drink well with minimal cellaring. Tasted two times.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Langoa-Barton was picked between September 4 and 18 and matured in 60% new oak barrels. It has a lively bouquet with the Merlot in full effect, blueberry and cassis scents, and just a background touch of peppermint. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, a lovely caressing texture, very well balanced with a touch of pepperiness towards the persistent finish. What a gorgeous Langoa!				
Score:92-94					

Clos Du Marquis	RP:92-94	JS:94-95	AG:90-93	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Clos du Marquis is a serious wine that will reward patience. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of dark berries, crème de cassis, violets and burning embers, it's medium- to full-bodied, deep and layered, with bright acids and a chassis of ripe, powdery but abundant tannins. The blend this year is 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	Well framed, focused, textured and refined. Aromas of currants, dried herbs, baking spices and some bark. Medium-bodied with very fine tannins. Nice concentration that remains elegant and in control. Lively finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clos du Marquis is a potent, brooding wine. A rush of dark-toned fruit, gravel, incense, licorice, tobacco and scorched earth hits the palate. Cabernet Sauvignon takes the lead, and that very much comes through in the wine's savory character and structural profile. Lavender, mint, dried herbs and chocolate follow as the 2025 gains volume in the glass. There's a lot of wine here. I am looking forward to tasting this in finished form, given its considerable potential.				
Score:90-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clos du Marquis was harvested between September 8 and 20 at 24 hl/ha and matured in 55% new oak for a planned 16 months. This has a fragrant and intense bouquet, with just a hint of lavender suffusing the black cherry and blackcurrant scents, more blue fruit surfacing with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied, with a powerful entry, quite precocious licorice-tinged black fruit. A little "heady" in style, I feel that the warmth of that summer comes through more here compared to the Las Cases.				
Score:91-93					

Gruaud Larose	RP:94-96		AG:95-97	NM:93-95	\$76
Wines Advocate	Unwinding in the glass with notes of dark berries, cassis, plums mingled with hints of violet and pencil shavings, the 2025 Gruaud Larose is medium- to full-bodied, supple and suave, with a deep core of fruit, lovely energy and ripe, powdery tannins. Checking in at 13.5% alcohol, this blend of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc will bear a special gold label to commemorate the estate's 300th anniversary.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Gruaud Larose is rich, ample and exotic right out of the gate. Dark-toned fruit, graphite, licorice, mocha and lavender are all dialed up. The 2025 has a lot to offer, but will need a number of years to be at its finest. There's a lot of wine here. Even with all its intensity, the tannins show no signs of stress. All the 2025 needs is a lot of time in the cellar to shed its considerable baby fat.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Gruaud Larose comes in a specially designed etched bottle to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the first vintage labelled as Gruaud Larose (although there were already vines in situ). Picked between September 3 and 20 at 26 hl/ha, average for the appellation, and aged in new oak, it has a less outgoing bouquet than its peers, tightly wound black fruit, sous-bois and tobacco. Fine delineation and firmly classical in style. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannins. A more tertiary Gruaud Larose, hints of dark powdered chocolate combine with black fruit, leading to a more structured vintage that lingers nicely in the mouth. Perhaps slightly less deep than some of its peers, this has a tendency to gain weight during élevage. Englishman's claret!				
Score:93-95					

Talbot	RP:91-93	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:93-95	\$62
Wines Advocate	Bright and harmonious, the 2025 Talbot wafts from the glass with aromas of mulberries, violet, cassis, dark cherries and spice, framed by well-integrated oak. Medium- to full-bodied, it's concentrated and dense, built around a massive core of fruit framed by structured, youthful tannins and concludes with a somewhat firm, gently bitter finish. It's a blend of 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot and 9% Petit Verdot.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	This is juicy and incisive, with expressive dark fruit and fine-grained, almost grainy tannins. A savory quality in the long finish. Persistent and cohesive.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Talbot is a huge, potent wine. Blackberry, gravel, incense, dried herbs, menthol, licorice and dark spice soar out of the glass. Huge swaths of tannin frame it all effortlessly. Talbot is a beast in 2025. It needs time to settle down.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Talbot contains the highest ever Petit Verdot (9%) this year due to more generous yields. Picked from September 5 to 22, a little quicker than expected as Laporte spotted some botrytis, at 28 hl/ha, this is matured in 60% new oak barrels. It has a generous bouquet, a mixture of red and black fruit intermixed with mocha and light undergrowth scents, typical Talbot. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, well judged acidity, satisfying weight and density on the mid-palate that had been lacking in vintages past. A little more grip on the grainy-textured finish, lightly spiced with a hint of powdered chocolate, if you seek a classic Saint-Julien and, it must be said, often at a reasonable price, then look no further.				
Score:93-95					

Saint Pierre	RP:85-87	JS:96-97	AG:93-95	NM:92-94	\$54
Wines Advocate	Introverted and reserved, with a suggestion of oxidative character, the 2025 Saint-Pierre is somewhat disappointing at this stage, revealing aromas of spice and dark berries. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, it's built around a firm, assertive tannic frame, concluding with a somewhat dry finish. The sample was prepared on April 13 for a tasting on April 21, which may not fully reflect the wine's evolution—particularly during the en primeur period, when wines can change markedly from day to day. It will merit reassessment after élevage.				
Score:85-87					
James Suckling	Exuberant dark fruit. This is structured, with a touch of cedar and polished, fine-grained tannins that are so sophisticated and run the length of the wine. Classy. 78% cabernet sauvignon, 15% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Saint-Pierre (Saint-Julien) is superb. Crème de cassis, graphite, licorice, cloves, lavender and inky dark fruit saturate the palate. Cabernet Sauvignon speaks with striking intensity from start to finish. This full-bodied, explosive Saint-Julien delivers the goods, big time. Tasted two times.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Saint-Pierre (Saint-Julien) does not quite possess the delineation or clarity of the Gloria this year, perhaps summer warmth just impinging on the aromatics more, quite high-toned and opulent. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, powdery in texture, slightly chalky, but it coheres nicely on the finish. Good backbone and plenty of freshness, there is a dash of white pepper on the finish. Excellent.				
Score:92-94					

Branaire Ducru	RP:94-96	JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:93-95	\$52
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Branaire-Ducru is a compelling wine in the making, revealing an open, refined bouquet of cassis, mulberries, spices, flowers and pencil lead, with its new oak largely remaining in the background. Medium- to full-bodied, it's sapid and perfumed, built around a seamless, layered core of fruit framed by finely grained, velvety tannins and concluding with a long, fresh and precise finish. Matured in 65% new oak, this blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot and 6% Cabernet Franc captures the estate's signature style—polished, balanced and texturally refined—while clearly reflecting the brightness and freshness of the vintage				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Voluptuous dark fruit, cedar and a touch of tar on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with an expressive yet concentrated profile, a precise structure and fine-grained, high quality tannins. Chiseled and balanced.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Branaire-Ducru is a powerful wine with a darker fruit profile than most years. Dark blue/purplish fruit, lavender, cloves and licorice open first. Floral overtones and brisk acids reappear to perk up the close. A clean, vibrant finish rounds things out in style. This is such a gorgeous and expressive wine. The 2025 is quite simply a fabulous Branaire. Tasted two times.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Branaire-Ducru was cropped at 33 hl/ha, which is not too low in the context of the growing season, but the smallest since 1991. Picking was from September 4 with the early Merlots and finished September 22. The Merlot on clay soils was deemed high quality and therefore comprises a slightly higher percentage of the blend. It is aged in 60% new and 40% one-year-old barrels. This has a flattering bouquet with black plum and strawberry fruit, and a noticeable though agreeable powdered chocolate/mocha note at the moment. The palate is medium-bodied with silky smooth tannins, a fine bead of acidity, and hints of mocha and mint merging with black fruit. The finish is quite linear and understated, keeping within the style of the chateau. Very classy, this will give a lot of pleasure without too much cellaring. 13.2% alcohol.				
Score:93-95					

Gloria		JS:94-95	AG:92-94	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A solid red, structured and textured, showing cherries and baking spices on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with sinewy tannins. Crunchy at the center, with a flavorful, vivid and persistent finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Gloria is fabulous. Bright, floral and full of life, Gloria is so impressive. Redtoned fruit, blood orange, mint, cinnamon and dried herbs all add energy to this delicious, mid-weight Saint-Julien. Gloria is especially fine in 2025. Don't miss it. Taste two times.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Gloria was picked between September 10 and 19 and matured in 50% new oak. It has a lovely bouquet with well-defined blackberry, violet and crushed stone scents, the oak seamlessly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with fine, grainy tannins, good concentration and a tensile, mineral finish. Bon vin.				
Score:93-95					

Lagrange	RP:94-96	JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:93-95	\$52
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Lagrange shows excellent potential, offering up notes of cassis, dark berries and violets, framed by a subtle touch of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, deep and dense, with a concentrated core of fruit, sweet tannins and a long, penetrating finish, it's a blend of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, checking in at 13.6% alcohol. Representing half the estate's production, its mid-palate depth and amplitude reflect the decision to harvest the estate's Cabernet Sauvignon late, between September 21 and October 10.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Aromas of blackberries, tar and a touch of violets. Medium- to full-bodied with good concentration and expressive dark fruit, framed by firm, fine-grained tannins and a persistent finish				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lagrange is bold, explosive and full of life. Broad, supple contours envelop the palate, releasing layers of dark-toned fruit, cedar, mocha, dried herbs and espresso. The 2025 builds nicely, gaining volume and persistence over time. This is a strong showing. Tasted two times.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lagrange was cropped at an average of 30 hl/ha, lower for the Cabernet, with 13.56% alcohol. It was picked from September 8 until September 24 and matured in 60% new oak barrels. This has a sublime bouquet that actually reminds me of the 2020, beautifully defined with blackcurrant, iodine and touches of violet petals. The oak is very well integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with granular tannins, fine acidity, gentle but insistent grip. Quite compact towards the finish, this has a linearity that I really admire, imparting a sense of classicism and "coolness". This is an excellent Lagrange from Mathieu Bordes and his team				
Score:93-95					

La Croix Beaucaillou			AG:91-93		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Croix Ducru-Beaucaillou is one of the most subdued wines in this range from Bruno Borie. Plum, blackberry, gravel, spice and lavender gradually open in the glass. Petit Verdot is elevated in the 2025, and that drives the blend, which may explain some of the reticence here.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

MARGAUX	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Chateau Margaux	RP:97-100	JS:98-99	AG:97-99	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Château Margaux is a deep, authoritative wine that represents some 37% of the estate's production this year. Unwinding in the glass with notes of dark berries, violets, lilac and pencil shavings, framed by a deft touch of new oak, it's medium- to full-bodied, dense and layered, with a concentrated core of fruit framed by sweet, powdery tannins and lively acids. This will certainly require some patience, but it is a prodigious Château Margaux in the making. It checks in at 13.8% alcohol and a pH of 3.72.				
Score:97-100					
James Suckling	The texture of this wine is exceptional, with black currant, dark plum, chocolate and orange blossom aromas. Full-bodied with round and creamy tannins that fill the mouth and give a caressing texture. Very long and seductive. Gentle at the end. It's lush, velvety and luxurious. 89% cabernet sauvignon, 6% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Château Margaux is shaping up to be one of the wines of this young vintage. Dark and layered, almost mysterious in bearing, the 2025 is going to have a lot to say over the coming decades as it grows up. Today, its superb persistence and exceptional balance are the harbingers. Here, too, there's a ton of tannin, but also more than enough fruit and overall density to keep things in balance.				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château Margaux was picked at 22 hl/ha between 10 and 29 September. This year it represents 37% of the total crop, a little down on recent vintages, and was matured in 100% new oak as usual. The first thing that you notice on this Château Margaux is the purity of fruit, a signature of the First Growth but taken to its maximum in this vintage. Perfumed blueberry, crushed violet and iris flower, a touch of iodine and a distant trace of the estuary. Wonderful delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with velvety tannins, fine delineation and poise. There is backbone to this Margaux but it is disguised under the layers of pure blackberry and blueberry fruit, dovetailing into a lightly spiced but very persistent finish. It fans out wonderfully, completing a very alluring wine in the making. This vintage contains 13.8% alcohol.				
Score:96-98					

Pavillon Rouge	RP:91-93		AG:92-94	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Pavillon Rouge is a serious, youthfully structured second wine, unwinding in the glass with notes of dark berry fruit mingled with notes of anise, licorice and petals. Medium- to full-bodied, supple and lively, with a deep, tightly wound core of primary fruit and a long, vibrant finish, it will reward a bit of patience. This year, Pavillon Rouge represents 28% of the harvest, and it's a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 10% Petit Verdot and 4% Cabernet Franc.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pavillon Rouge is a gorgeous, very sexy wine, a Margaux that captures the best the vintage had to offer. Succulent red cherry/plum fruit, mocha and new leather open first. This offers gorgeous mid-palate pliancy and fabulous persistence, not to mention compelling balance all around. It's a very fine Pavillon Rouge, but one that will require cellaring as the tannins are quite imposing.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pavillon Rouge represents 28% of the volume this year, a little lower than previous years, containing just a little more Petit Verdot (10%), matured as usual in around 60% new oak, though my sample was taken from a new barrel. It has a bright nose, black cherries and blueberry fruit, crushed violet developing in the glass, a hint of black olive. The palate is medium-bodied, with a pleasing rondeur on the entry, a "pillowy" Pavillon Rouge at this stage, a pleasing countervailing bitterness that balances the opulence that comes through on the slightly briny finish. Less jagged than its peers, this will be quite tempting in its youth, yet it certainly has the substance to last				
Score:90-92					

Pavillon Blanc	RP:93-95	JS:97-98	AG:94-96	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Pavillon Blanc, crafted entirely from Sauvignon Blanc, reveals a profile marked by confit citrus alongside notes of herbs and white fruits. Medium- to full-bodied, it's rich and dense yet enveloping and is built around a fleshy core of fruit with notable plenitude and aromatic intensity. Bright, well-defined acidity brings balance, leading into a long, ethereal and perfumed finish. In the context of a notably dry vintage for white wines, this stands out as a clear success. Harvested between August 18 and 22, with yields of 16 hectoliters per hectare, it matured in 20% new oak, with less bâtonnage than usual, and has a pH of 3.14.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	A complete sauvignon blanc with sliced pear, apple and lemon aromas and flavors with a full body and a polished texture that is caressing and beautiful. It is crunchy and a bit richer than many Pavillon Blancs.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pavillon Blanc is a total stunner. Tangerine peel, white peach, passion fruit and white pepper are some of the many notes that soar from the glass. The team opted for less bâtonnage than most years, as the fruit was already quite rich. Yields were just 16 hectoliters per hectare. The 2025 is an unusually exotic Pavillon Blanc, a wine with a very strong personality. I find it compelling, but I can also imagine some readers may find it a bit too rich.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pavillon Blanc, which incidentally has existed since the 19th century, when they opted to separate the complanté white varieties, was picked between August 18 and 22 at 16 hl/ha. It underwent less bâtonnage this year. It has an attractive bouquet with lifted orchard fruit, lanolin, white peach, quite discrete this year. The palate is well balanced, with a lovely tropical-tinged opening, from the warm summer, which is countered by the keen line of acidity. Gorgeous mouthfeel, lingering on the finish with hints of guava and lychee. Honestly, I don't think I would nail this as a pure Sauvignon Blanc blind, but absolutely delicious.				
Score:					

Palmer	RP:97-99	JS:97-98	AG:96-98	NM:95-97	\$330
Wines Advocate	One of the most refined and seamless wines of the vintage is the 2025 Palmer, a blend of 55% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Petit Verdot that wafts from the glass with aromas of sweet blackberries, plums and licorice complemented by floral accents of violet and wisteria (yes, the window of the tasting room was closed). Full-bodied, suave and layered, with a deep and concentrated core of fruit, bright acids and supple tannins, it's already harmonious and complete, concluding with a long, penetrating finish. At only 13.5% alcohol, this is quite a bit lower than most recent sunny vintages at Palmer.				
Score:97-99					
James Suckling	Plush is the word to describe this red. Full-bodied and layered, with velvety tannins and a savory finish. Juicy at the end. Flashy and posh. Plenty of blackberry and black currant aromas and flavors.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Palmer is unusual in that Merlot drives the blend this year. That results in an unusually juicy Grand Vin. Even so, there's plenty of supporting structure. The blend is 55% Merlot, 41% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Petit Verdot. Black fruit, lavender, menthol, licorice, gravel and chocolate build into a driving, potent finish. There's a lot of gravitas and substance here. I am very much looking forward to tasting this as a finished wine; my impression today is that the 2025 is holding back quite a bit of potential.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Palmer was picked between September 4 and 26 at just 20 hl/ha (Duroux mentioned how yields have decreased by around 10 hl/ha over the last decade). Matured in 80% new oak and then racked into foudres the following June, it is quintessentially Palmer on the nose with those almost extravagant floral violet scents that blossom in the glass. Wonderful delineation and focus, touches of Indian ink and cassis emerge with time. The palate is very smooth and velvety on the entry, disguising the substance and weight of this wine. Impressive in terms of density, with a little more grip than the Alter Ego, it delivers just the right amount of spice that gives the finish another dimension. One of the longer-term Margaux wines that would benefit from a cellar in its first few years.				
Score:95-97					

Malescot Saint-Exupéry	RP:92-94	JS:95-96	AG:93-95		
Wines Advocate	A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Château Malescot St. Exupéry offers up aromas of sweet blackberries, plums, pencil shavings and licorice. Medium- to full-bodied, rich and fleshy, with a sun-kissed core of fruit and powdery structuring tannins, it's a dramatic, generous, crowd-pleasing style of Margaux.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	A very structured red with black currants, blackberries and chocolate aromas. It's full and flexing, with solid tannins and a long finish. Impressive. Better than 2022?				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Malescot Saint Exupéry is classic Malescot—dark, powerful and quite brooding. Dark-toned fruit, gravel, incense, licorice, tobacco and dried herbs are delineated with serious concentration and pure, unbridled power. This backward, massively tannic Margaux is a wine for readers who can be patient.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Cantenac Brown	RP:93-95	JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the 2025 Cantenac Brown unwinds in the glass with notes of crème de criss, pencil shavings and a deft touch of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, supple and suave, with sweet, powdery tannins and a fleshy, enveloping profile, it's broad-shouldered but judiciously extracted.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	Extremely well made, with a solid core of fruit, fine tannins, precision and tension. The new winery is really showing its substance now. Long and persistent. One of the best wines I have had from here.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Cantenac Brown is quite the powerhouse. Dark and ample in feel, the 2025 offers gorgeous presence and class to burn. Crème de cassis, new leather, lavender, menthol, licorice and mocha are some of the many notes that open with a bit of coaxing. There's tremendous substance and stuffing here. The tannins are quite fine, which is especially remarkable considering the wine's intense fruit.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Cantenac Brown has a lovely lift on the nose, with brambly black fruit, crushed stone and a light iris flower scent, not as intense as the Brane-Cantenac but cut from a similar cloth. The palate is medium-bodied, with fine, lace-like tannins. This Margaux is all about purity, lightly spiced, with a gentle grip on the finish. This is a classy, sophisticated Cantenac Brown.				
Score:93-95					

Giscours	RP:94-96	JS:97-98	AG:95-97+	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Giscours is another brilliant wine from this resurgent property, unwinding in the glass with aromas of wild berries, violets, rose petals and pencil shavings. Medium- to full-bodied, deep and perfumed, it's suave and seamless, with ultra-refined tannins, vibrant acids and a long, perfumed finish. This classy and precise blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc was produced in Giscour's functional temporary winery, which makes temperature control easier than in the estate's old facilities.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Such a balanced and harmonious red with control, texture and length. It has aromas of red berries, cedar, pebbles and baking spices. Medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins. Velvety and attractive, with a long, flavorful, precise finish. A blend of 64% cabernet sauvignon, 31% merlot and 5% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Giscours is another magnificent wine for a château that has made giant steps in the last handful of years. Plush and succulent in the glass, with silky, exceptionally polished tannins and stunning mid-palate richness, the Giscours is pure and total sensuality. Dark red-toned fruit, pomegranate, spice, new leather, incense and dried flowers all race across the palate. The purity of the flavors is just remarkable. Tasted two times.				
Score:95-97+					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Giscours was picked at around 31 hl/ha, just above the average for the Margaux appellation, and matured in around 50% new oak for a planned 16 or 17 months from nine cooperages. This has a quintessential Margaux nose, floral in style, violets and iris flower that infuse the quite lush but well defined mixture of black and blueberry fruit. The oak is very well integrated here. The palate is medium-bodied with velvety tannins on the entry matched by a keen thread of acidity. There is a touch of graphite on the back palate, a pleasing crescendo that leads to quite a structured and saline finish. This is one of the finest Giscours in recent years but it will deserve five or six years in bottle to show its mettle and it may well settle at the top of my banded score. 13.3% alcohol.				
Score:94-96					

Marojallia					
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni					
Score:					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Alter Ego	RP:91-93		AG:94-96	NM:92-94	\$93
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Alter Ego de Palmer unwinds in the glass with aromas of dark berries, plums and violets, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, fleshy and concentrated palate defined by lively acids and plenty of sweet, powdery tannin. Checking in at 13% alcohol, it's a blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot. The low yields of 20 hectoliters per hectare might shock other estates, but Palmer has become much more habituated to such numbers in recent years.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Alter Ego is bold, juicy and super expressive right out of the gate. A wine of total pleasure and seduction, this will drink beautifully with minimal cellaring. Soft, plush contours wrap around a core of red plum, mocha, cedar, espresso and cinnamon. All the elements are so well balanced. Floral top notes and a kick of blood orange perk up the brilliant finish. This is such a classy, polished wine—an especially fine Alter Ego. The blend is 54% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Alter Ego, aged in 20% new oak for eight months then transferred into foudres, has a quite effervescent, sorbet-fresh bouquet with perfumed black cherry and cassis fruit, becoming more floral with touches of pressed violet mixed with blood orange. Real intensity. The palate is framed by supple and fluid tannins, but there is certainly backbone to this Alter Ego, with gentle but insistent grip towards the finish. It coheres beautifully in the glass, with ample length and is very refined. Lovely.				
Score:92-94					

Prieure-Lichine	RP:91-93	JS:94-95	AG:92-94	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Prieuré-Lichine reveals a vibrant bouquet of dark wild berries, mulberries, cassis and floral notes. Medium- to full-bodied, fleshy and dense, it's structured and concentrated, built around a solid tannic chassis that carries through to a long, elegantly spicy finish. Less immediately charming and enveloping than usual, it instead emphasizes depth and power.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Well composed, textural and velvety, with currants, herbs and baking spices on the nose. Medium-bodied with fine tannins. Refined texture with substance and harmony. Persistent, focused finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Prieuré-Lichine is terrific. I won't be surprised if it turns out even better than this note suggests. Floral overtones weave through a core of dark red/purplish fruit, all framed by silky tannins. This is classic Prieuré-Lichine, with perhaps a bit more fruit density than most years. A pretty appealing combination in my book.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Prieuré-Lichine has a well-defined nose, though it does not quite have the amplitude of some of the over-performing Margaux barrel samples in this vintage. It just needs a bit more ambition. The palate is medium-bodied with a graphite-tinged entry. Edgy tannins, fine depth, structured more than recent vintages and demonstrating more persistence. Good potential—hopefully the aromatics will muster a bit more complexity because the palate deserves it.				
Score:90-92					

Rauzan Segla	RP:94-96	JS:95-96	AG:95-97	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Rauzan-Ségla is promising, opening in the glass with notes of cassis, pencil shavings, sweet soil tones and a deft framing of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, bright and layered, it's vibrant and concentrated, with a chassis of fine tannins and a penetrating, youthfully structured finish.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Blackberry, dark cherry and crushed stone notes with a medium to full body, chewy tannins and a long finish. Juicy and muscular. Wait and see.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Rauzan-Ségla is totally seamless in the glass. Dark-toned fruit, mocha, newleather, licorice, menthol and dried herbs infuse the palate with tremendous textural depth. The 2025 is of course very young. The year's natural concentration is its most evident signature at this time, but the rest will surely follow. Polished, supremely elegant tannins support the finish. What a stunner. Tasted two times.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Rauzan-Ségla was picked September 2 to 15 at 29 hl/ha and matured in 60% new oak barrels. This has a slight marine scent on the nose, well defined and marked by pure black fruit laced with violet. Quintessential Rauzan Ségla. The palate is mediumbodied with pliant but firm tannins, just gorgeous caressing black fruit, bright acids that lend an almost sorbet-like freshness and vibrancy to the finish. This is a top-class Margaux and one of the best wines from the estate in recent years.				
Score:94-96					

Rauzan Gassies		JS:91-92	AG:92-94	NM:85-87	\$55
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A pleasant red with plum, cherry and red currant character, a medium body, firm tannins and a juicy finish.				
Score:91-92					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Rauzan Gassies impresses with its presence and raw power. Gravel, scorched earth, tobacco, incense and licorice weave through a core of sepia-toned fruit. This muscular Margaux has a lot to offer for those who can wait. There's a ton of wine here.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Rauzan Gassies was picked September 8 to 20 and matured in 55% French oak for a planned 18 months. It has a potent nose with scents of strawberry and raspberry pastilles. It is just missing the complexity of its Margaux peers, though there is nothing unattractive about it. The palate is medium-bodied, with dry tannins, mocha and powdered dark chocolate obscuring the red brambly fruit underneath. It just seems off the pace in a vintage when many Margaux estates thrived.				
Score:85-87					

Du Tertre	RP:92-94	JS:96-97	AG:90-92	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Château du Tertre, a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot (40% new oak), reveals a bouquet of dark wild berries and spice along with discreet, well-integrated oak. Medium- to full-bodied, fleshy and dense, it's also structured with elegant, youthful tannins and concludes with a long, ethereal and dark fruit–inflected finish.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	The texture and depth are really impressive for this chateau and might be its best wine ever. It's medium-bodied with integrated and refined tannins, a powdery and textured mouthfeel and an endless finish. Floating on the pure fruit. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 18% merlot, 11% cabernet franc and 6% petit verdot				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 du Tertre is powerful and quite dense, but also shows more finesse than I have seen in some time. Floral overtones immediately convey elegance. Hints of blue-toned fruit, lavender, spice and sage develop over time. Polished, supple contours frame it all effortlessly. Tasted two times.				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château du Tertre was picked 8 to 22 September and matured in 40% new oak. It is cohesive and focused on the nose, plenty of graphite-infused black fruit that nudges it stylistically towards Pauillac. Fine delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with, again, quite a Pauillac-like entry thanks to that graphite edge. Well defined with satisfying length, this is a classy du Tertre, one of the best I have tasted from barrel.				
Score:92-94					

Brane-Cantenac	RP:93-96	JS:96-97	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Carmenère (the latter harvested by the winery team after everything else has been picked), the 2025 Brane-Cantenac offers up a rich bouquet of crème de cassis, plums and spices, framed by a deft touch of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and lively, with powdery tannins that contribute youthful grip on the finish, it checks in at a very classical 13.3% alcohol and pH of 3.62.				
Score:93-96					
James Suckling	A medium-bodied and solid red with blackberry, chocolate, meat and walnut character. It shows juicy tannins and a long finish. Persistent and classy. Such length and balance.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Brane-Cantenac is incredibly polished right out of the gate. Floral overtones lead into a core of blue/purplish fruit, spice, new leather, tobacco, lavender and a kiss of French oak. Silky tannins lend shape and finesse. The aromatics alone are so compelling, but everything about the 2025 speaks to balance. It's a magnificent effort from proprietor Henri Lurton and his team. One of the highlights of the vintage.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Brane-Cantenac was picked from September 2 to 29, finishing with that 1% of late-ripening Carménère, cropped at 32.2 hl/ha. It has impressive purity on the nose, an aspect of the Grand Vin that Henri Lurton and his team have improved immensely over the last decade. Black cherries, bilberry, violet and crushed stone unfold in the glass, classical in style, which is Brane-Cantenac's signature. The palate is medium-bodied with supple, finely sculpted tannins allied with disarming sapidity and brightness. Not powerful like the 2022, yet pixelated with a mineral, tensile, complex finish. Another feather in the cap for Lurton and, moreover, this is often one of the best values on release.				
Score:95-97					

Lascombes	RP:92-94	JS:96-97	AG:95-97+	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and 5% Cabernet France and Petit Verdot, the 2025 Lascombes unwinds in the glass with notes of inky berries, pencil shavings and a subtle hint of violet. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, with a layered, muscular profile and ripe tannins that assert themselves on the finish, its broad shoulders are derived from low yields (25 hectoliters per hectare) rather than extraction, as Heinz and his team capped fermentation temperatures at 25 degrees Celsius and handled the wines gently after alcoholic fermentation was complete.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	Extremely sophisticated and refined, with fine tannins and a long finish. Medium-bodied, polished and pretty. Currant, blackberry and cherry undertones. Seriously crafted. One of the best ever.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lascombes marks another hugely important step forward for this reborn château. Silky yet quite powerful, the 2025 is seamless in the glass. Dark Cabernet Sauvignon fruit opens first, followed by hints of graphite, new leather, incense, tobacco and scorched earth. The long, sculpted finish is dramatic in its beauty, shaped by clean mineral notes and refined, persistent tannins. This is truly impressive, and Axel Heinz's best Lascombes yet. Tasted three times.				
Score:95-97+					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lascombes was cropped at 25 hl/ha between 8 and 25 September. This has a focused and quite opulent bouquet, but everything is very well controlled, as if there is a tight leash on the aromatics of black plum, iodine and violets. The palate is mediumbodied with slightly chalky tannins on the entry that counter the density of black fruit. Really impressive minéralité in this Margaux with a pleasing strictness towards the almost Pauillac-like finish. This certainly bears the signature of winemaker Axel Heinz, much more precise and tensile compared with vintages a decade ago.				
Score:93-95					

D'Issan	RP:90-92	JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate	Marked by a spicy, oaky profile, the 2025 D'Issan reveals aromas of lead pencil, tobacco and dark berries. Medium- to full-bodied, structured and dense, it's built around an assertive tannic frame and concludes with a long, spicy finish. Quite introverted at this stage, it will need to gain in elegance and harmony with élevage.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling	A tight and juicy red with blackberry, cherry, plum and spice aromas and flavors. It's medium-bodied with a creamy texture and a crunchy finish. Refined for the vintage, with plenty of character and length.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 d'Issan is fabulous. Inky and racy to the core, the 2025 Issan has so much to offer. Crème de cassis, menthol, licorice, cloves, gravel and mocha all meld together in the glass. Sumptuous and seamless with exceptional balance, the 2025 is a real stunner. This is an especially dense d'Issan that reflects the intensity of the year. Tasted two times				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château d'Issan was picked from September 11 to 18 and is matured in 50% new oak. This has a quite beguiling bouquet, very pure blackberry and wild strawberry fruit, hints of cassis, replete with Margaux's violet signature. The oak is neatly integrated (50%). The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannins, plenty of tension and commendable minéralité. There is a transparency to this d'Issan that I really admire and it embodies the classicism that the season offered on the finish. One of the finest vintages in recent years and, hopefully, it will represent good value upon release.				
Score:93-95					

Kirwan		JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	The purity of fruit is very attractive, with blackberries, black cherries and dark chocolate. Medium- to full-bodied with a juicy finish. A solid Kirwan.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2024 Kirwan is quite understated and discreet on the nose, opening up with blackberry, raspberry and crushed violet scents. The oak is neatly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied, fresh and juicy, with pliant tannins, more on the mid-palate than some of its peers and a harmonious, thoroughly enjoyable finish. This is classy. Kirwan looks as if it has raised its game in recent vintages and this bodes well for the future. Bravo!				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Kirwan takes a little time to settle in the glass, but it is worth the wait as it coalesces and reveals very seductive blackberry and blueberry fruit, pressed violet and light undergrowth scents. Fine delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with silky, smooth tannins, a keen line of acidity, velvety and caressing, with ample weight on the quintessentially Margaux finish. What a beautiful wine in the making				
Score:93-95					

Siran		JS:92-93	V:93-95	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A fruit-driven, juicy and mellow red with red berry and chocolate aromas. Medium-bodied with chewy tannins. Dense core of fruit and a flavorful finish.				
Score:92-93					
Antonio Galloni	Broad and creamy, the 2025 Siran is a powerful, dense Margaux. There's not much subtlety here, but then again, that does not seem to be the point. Inky red/purplish fruit, lavender, mint, rose petal and mocha are all beautifully amplified. It will be interesting to see if more complexity develops over time				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Siran was picked 5 to 22 September at 32 hl/ha and matured in one-third new oak barrels. Tasted twice, it has a glorious, you could say "joyful" bouquet with plenty of energy: blackberry, blueberry, touches of violet and an underlying citrus verging on blood orange scent. The palate is medium-bodied with pleasing sapidity on the entry. Certainly more muscular and dense than the preceding vintage, it maintains precision and elegance, gambolling along to a finish that feels "complete", even at this prenatal stage. Siran has an unerring and, I dare say, under-appreciated ability to age over the long term, proven by a 1926 drunk twice during en primeur. No doubt this has similar longevity, though perchance more approachability, and can be enjoyed after four or five years.				
Score:92-94					

MEDOC	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Sociando Mallet	RP:93-94	JS:92-93	AG:92-95	NM:92-94	\$36
Wines Advocate	A particularly accomplished effort, the 2025 Sociando-Mallet reveals a layered bouquet of mulberries, cassis, raspberry and spice. Medium- to full-bodied, it combines density with a controlled sense of power, built around a supple, well-defined core of fruit framed by a seamless tannic structure. The finish is long and gently ethereal, marked by notes of lead pencil and dark berries. While faithful to the estate's identity, it shows greater precision and a more integrated profile than in recent vintages, a result of very low yields, sulfur-free vinification enhancing aromatic clarity and an extended maceration.				
Score:93-94					
James Suckling	Dark fruit with a touch of graphite on the nose. The palate is medium- to full-bodied with focused tannins that are discreet yet expressive and a subtle, juicy dark fruit character.				
Score:92-93					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Sociando-Mallet is a total head-turner. What a wine. Dark and explosive, with tons of energy, the 2025 is fabulous right out of the gate. Supple contours and plush dark fruit announce an important wine of tremendous pedigree and character. Dark red/blue fruit and exotic spice tones lend richness and vibrancy, while brisk acids convey salivating energy.				
Score:92-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Sociando-Mallet has an attractive nose: well defined blackberry and wild strawberry scents, undergrowth and a light black olive scent, almost Graves-like in style. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, fine depth, cohesive, with a fresh, classically styled finish that lingers in the mouth. This sample arrived at the end of a long day's tasting, but its qualities still stood out.				
Score:92-94					

Chasse Spleen		JS:93-94	AG:90-92	NM:90-92	\$34
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A very structured red with a medium body, good depth of fruit and juicy tannins. Earth, spice and terra cotta undertones to the fruit. Muscular in many ways.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Chasse-Spleen is a deep, potent Moulis-en-Médoc. Intense dark-toned fruit, gravel, incense, new leather, licorice and chocolate build through to the, palate-staining finish. Tasted two times				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Chasse-Spleen was picked from September 12 to 23 and matured in 35% new oak for a planned 16 months. It has a mixture of redcurrant, blackcurrant and very subtle ferrous scents on the nose, well defined and focused though it takes a few swirls of the glass to really cohere. The palate is medium-bodied, with a little chewiness on the entry. There seems to be a little more extraction in this Moulis, quite dense and arguably just missing the precision of, say, Poujeaux or Branas Grand Poujeaux. But it is a "solid" Chasse Spleen and its élevage will just shave its edges.				
Score:90-92					

Potensac	RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:91-93	NM:91-93	\$26
Wines Advocate	This estate is always reliable, but I was taken aback by just how good the 2025 Potensac is. A blend of 37% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Cabernet Franc and the rest Merlot, from vines averaging over 60 years of age, it offers up aromas of dark berries, crème de cassis and iris, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, layered and concentrated palate with excellent density, high-quality tannins and a long, perfumed finish. The 2025 may well be the best wine ever produced at this estate.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	The polish and integration of fruit and tannins are very impressive, with a caressing texture and a fruity finish. It's balanced and transparent. Brightness shines through				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Potensac has a lot to offer. Dark and savory, the 2025 presents an attractive mélange of strong savory/earthy inflections and dark-fleshed fruit. A burst of floral notes punctuates the finish. The 2025 will need a few years in bottle, but it has quite a bit of potential.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Potensac was cropped at 28 hl/ha between September 12 and 22. Matured in 20% new oak barrels, this has quite a flamboyant bouquet with layers of black cherry, blueberry and violet, almost Margaux-like in style, with a touch of pencil shavings underneath. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannins on the entry, quite powerful, a little sapid, good density and a muscular finish that should be tempered during its élevage plus bottle age. Long-term Potensac.				
Score:91-93					

La Lagune	RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:93-95	NM:91-93	\$37
Wines Advocate	A blend of 50% Merlot, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Petit Verdot, the 2025 La Lagune is gourmand and lively, offering up aromas of cassis, mulberries, flowers and lilac. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and enveloping, it's round and fleshy, has good depth at the core and is framed by velvety tannins, concluding with a long, delicate and floral finish. The estate appears to be moving toward a more precise expression, where purity of fruit and finer tannin definition come to the fore. This is one to follow.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Black currants with a touch of violets on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with subtle concentration, charm, freshness and a consistent finish of dark fruit. The wine reveals itself slowly				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Lagune is fabulous—one of the clear sleepers of the vintage. Bright redtoned fruit, tobacco, cedar, mint and dried flowers convey tremendous intensity with no excess weight. The 2025 is brisk, energetic and loaded with character. Don't miss it. Tasted three times.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Lagune has a quite ripe and sorbet-fresh nose, mainly red fruit infused with blood orange, even a hint of marmalade. Quite bright, and what seems like a low SO2 vinification. The palate is medium-bodied with smooth tannins, fine acidity, and a dash of black pepper towards the cohesive finish. It just maybe dips a yard or two before the finish line, but this will be a thoroughly enjoyable La Lagune.				
Score:91-93					

Poujeaux	RP:89-91	JS:93-94	AG:92-95	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	Offering up attractive aromas of petals, dark berries and cigar wrapper, the 2025 Poujeaux is medium-bodied, with a sweet core of fruit and lively acids but surprisingly firm tannins that assert themselves on the chewy finish. Perhaps, like the 2022, it will round out with more time in barrel? It's a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 8% Petit Verdot.				
Score: 89-91					
James Suckling	Textural, balanced and focused with currants and wild herbs on the nose. Medium-bodied with fine, firm tannins. Well-built with a dense core of red berries and a compact finish with length. Attractive spice undertones.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Poujeaux is fabulous. Right out of the gate, it offers superb fruit intensity and plenty of structure to match. Dark blue and black-toned fruit, grilled herbs, menthol, lavender and licorice infuse the palate with tremendous depth. Broad swaths of tannin add to an impression of somber intensity. Yields were just 27 hectoliters per hectare. That, along with a higher percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon vis-à-vis most years, has resulted in an especially potent Poujeaux. Tasted two times.				
Score:92-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Poujeaux, which has a little more Cabernet Sauvignon, was cropped at 27 hl/ha. It has a well-defined bouquet with black fruit tinged with freshly shucked oyster shell. Classical in style, honed and focused. The palate is medium-bodied with quite rounded, malleable tannins. Fine acidity, black fruit in the driving seat, with more red fruit emerging towards the refined finish. This is a superb Moulis that will age for many years.				
Score:92-94					

Cantemerle		JS:93-94	AG:91-93	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	This shows an attractive nose of flowers and subtle spices from the oak. It has good concentration and a balanced palate, with a clear, expressive fruit profile.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Cantemerle is terrific. Plush, deep and quite powerful, Cantemerle has a lot to offer. Dark red fruit, leather, cedar, tobacco and dried herbs are all dialed up. Cabernet Sauvignon drives the blend, which is very much in evidence in the wine's savory intense and structure. There's a lot of wine here.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Cantemerle has a pretty nose with violet and iris flower-infused black fruit, very well defined, the oak very well integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, very well balanced, impressive weight and cohesive, with more precision on the finish than I have noticed on previous vintages of Cantemerle. I appreciate the sapidity here, a moreish Haut-Médoc in the making, and I look forward to revisiting this in bottle.				
Score:91-93					

GRAVES & PESSAC-LEOGNAN	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
De Fieuzal	RP:94-96	JS: 92-93		NM:90-92	\$40
Wines Advocate	The 2025 de Fieuzal, harvested between September 4 and 26, is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 10% Petit Verdot. It wafts from the glass with aromas of cassis, mulberries, wisteria and flowers. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and precise, it's built around a fleshy core of fruit framed by velvety, finely grained tannins and concludes with a long, ethereal and perfumed finish. More structured than usual, it remains well balanced, supported by lively acidity and a subtle, gastronomic bitterness on the finish. It's a classical expression and one of the more compelling values in Bordeaux this year.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	A well-rounded, supple and fruity red. Medium-bodied with melty tannins. Juicy and velvety, with red fruit character and a delicious finish.				
Score:92-93					
Antonio Galloni	Score:				
Score:					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château de Fieuzal has an understated bouquet with red berry fruit, sous-bois and light marine scents that gradually opens up with aeration. I would have liked to have seen more vigour in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with an edgy opening. More herbaceous than expected, it almost seems there was a bit of stem addition à la Les Carmes! It does cohere a little in the glass, so I am intrigued to see how it shows in bottle, though I remain prudent with my score for now.				
Score:90-92					

La Mission Haut Brion	RP:97-99	JS:96-97	AG:97-99	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 58.3% Merlot, 38.3% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3.4% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 La Mission Haut-Brion reveals a refined bouquet of smoky cassis, dark berries, spices and lead pencil, framed by a deft touch of new oak. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and layered, it's built around a multidimensional core of fruit underpinned by fine, velvety tannins, concluding with a long, perfumed and precise finish. Combining depth with energy, it delivers a textural yet controlled expression of power, with a real sense of freshness. The result is a particularly faithful, charming rendition of La Mission, defined by its elegance and overall precision.				
Score:97-99					
James Suckling	A red with lots of muscular tannins that are polished and velvety. It's full-bodied with a chewy mouthfeel and a long and intense finish. Crushed stones, dark fruit and bark at the end. 58.3% merlot, 38.3% cabernet sauvignon and 3.4% cabernet franc.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Mission Haut-Brion is one of my early favorites in this vintage. Aromatic and vibrant, with striking purity, the Grand Vin is magnificent. Redtoned fruit, blood orange, pomegranate, mint and cinnamon soar from the glass. Beams of supporting tannin lend energy and shape. In a word: compelling. One of the wines of the vintage.				
Score:					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Mission Haut-Brion was picked from August 28 until September 19 at around 23 hl/ha, lower than Haut-Brion, perhaps due to higher density of planting and less competition between vines. There is less new oak, at around 59%, the same as Haut-Brion, down from around 80% in recent years. This has a perfumed bouquet, one of the most floral that I can recall, beautifully defined with black cherries, blueberry and crushed violet scents. The palate is medium-bodied with chiselled tannins, a silver thread of acidity, quite linear in style with a strict, tensile, graphite-tinged finish. Yeah, it has to play second fiddle to Haut-Brion this year, but it is still a great La Mission. 13.6% alcohol.				
Score:94-96					

La Mission Haut Brion Blanc	RP:95-97	AG:92-95	NM:95-97
Wines Advocate	The La Mission Haut-Brion 2025 Blanc, a blend of 64.5% Sémillon and 35.5% Sauvignon Blanc, was vinified in barrels and bottled from April 13. It reveals a pure, crystalline bouquet that is both fresh and lightly exotic, with notes of ripe white fruits, jasmine, linden and verbena. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and enveloping, it's layered yet vibrant and built around a fleshy core of fruit, supported by bright acidity and elegant tension. Ethereal and finely detailed, it is remarkable in its ability to retain freshness despite the warmth of the vintage. This is one of the most complete expressions of the wine in recent years, combining both density and brightness, and among the finest white wines produced in Bordeaux this year.		
Score:95-97			
James Suckling			
Score:			
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Mission Haut-Brion Blanc offers lemon confit and tropical tones with real texture and weight. A wine that will age on its density, structure and power, I imagine it will always be rather exotic.		
Score:92-95			
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Mission Haut-Brion Blanc has a really lovely Sémillon-driven bouquet (64.5% of the blend), beautifully defined with touches of apple blossom, white flowers and pear drop. The palate is very well balanced, with fine acidity, taut and fresh, a little more weight than the Haut-Brion Blanc thanks to the Sémillon, with a touch of ginger and chamomile towards the finish. This is a great La Mission Haut-Brion Blanc, perchance the best dry white Bordeaux in 2025.		
Score:95-97			

La Chapelle de la Mission Haut Brion	RP:90-92	JS:94-95	AG:92-94	NM:90-92
Wines Advocate	The 2025 La Chapelle de la Mission Haut-Brion, a blend of 52.6% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28.3% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc and 1.1% Petit Verdot, reveals a complex and relatively deep bouquet for a second wine, with notes of cassis, blackberry and spice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and structured, it shows a firm yet elegant profile, supported by a core of freshness through the mid-palate. The tannins are well defined, lending length and structure. This is a more muscular expression of La Chapelle.			
Score:90-92				
James Suckling	A powerful second wine with lots of chewy tannins and a stony and steely texture. Medium-bodied with a solid core of fruit and a fresh and bright finish. 52.6% cabernet sauvignon, 28.3% merlot, 18% cabernet franc and 1.1% petit verdot.			
Score:94-95				
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Chapelle de La Mission Haut Brion is far from an easygoing wine. A blast of red-toned fruit, brisk acids and imposing tannins are signatures of a serious wine that is going to need a few years to come into its own. The 2025 is so vivid and vibrant. I can't wait to taste this from bottle. Very fine.			
Score:92-94				
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Chapelle de La Mission Haut-Brion has a pretty bouquet with blackberry, wild hedgerow, light touches of mint and cedar. Fine delineation. The palate is mediumbodied with sappy red berry fruit, fine tannins, fresh and lively, with a dab of black olive and graphite towards the structured finish. Nice grip here, just give it a couple of years to smooth its edges.			
Score:				

Haut Brion	RP:98-100	JS:98-99	AG:96-98	NM:98-100	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Haut-Brion is, as usual, more reserved and austere at this stage than La Mission, unwinding in the glass to reveal notions of dark wild berries mingled with spices, pencil leaf and licorice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and layered, it's built around a multidimensional core of fruit framed by structuring yet well-integrated tannins, delivering a notably controlled expression of power and concluding with a long, perfumed, subtly ethereal finish. While still tightly knit at this stage, it possesses considerable depth—IPT (an alaytical measure of tannic concentration) levels exceeding 100, rarely observed—that is perfectly controlled and will require extended cellaring. Recent refinements in the estate's approach, notably in viticulture, are translating into fruit of greater balance and freshness, even under the warm, dry conditions of 2025. It stands as one of the more impressive renditions of Haut-Brion in recent years.				
Score:98-100					
James Suckling	Haut-Brion delivers a red with great structure and length and superb intensity and power. It is a full-bodied red with character and depth, giving it endless length. Muscular yet polished and agile. Juicy at the end. 62% merlot, 26.2% cabernet sauvignon and 11.8% cabernet franc				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Brion is quite the powerhouse. Black fruit, cloves, new leather, tobacco, chocolate and menthol open before a wave of huge tannins and incisive acids take over. Haut-Brion can be rather dark and somber. That is very much the case with the 2025, a wine that speaks with sepia-toned, baritone inflections. It also conveys more obvious ripeness than La Mission Haut-Brion at this stage.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Brion was picked from September 1 (slightly later than La Mission) to September 18 at 29 hl/ha. Aged in 59% new oak, this has a very pure and elegant bouquet with ebullient brambly red fruit, crushed stone, potpourri and touches of Earl Grey. Wonderful delineation and a little more refined than, say, the 2020 or 2022. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannins, and there is more complexity here than La Mission, more depth and minéralité. Fresh and marine-tinged towards the finish that makes you want to come back. This year, the First Growth has put a bit of distance between itself and La Mission.				
Score:98-100					

Haut Brion Blanc	RP:94-96	JS:97-98	AG:93-95	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate	The Haut-Brion 2025 Blanc, a blend of 53% Sauvignon Blanc and 47% Sémillon, was vinified in barrels and bottled from April 13. It reveals aromas of white fruits and pear, with subtly smoky, toasty notes and a touch of reductive nuance, complemented by delicate spice. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and crystalline, it's tense and elegant and built around a remarkably fresh, fleshy core of fruit. Ethereal and finely detailed, it stands out for its purity and precision, with no overt thiolic expression. The finish is long, taut and particularly refined, delivering a very delicate and poised interpretation of Haut-Brion Blanc.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	The brightness and intensity are really impressive, with aromas of sliced pears, lemons, minerals and hints of crushed stones and salt. Energetic and lively. A blend of 53% sauvignon blanc and 47% semillon.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Brion Blanc handled the rigors of the vintage best of the three whites in the range. Floral, lithe and elegant, the 2025 reveals pretty notes of citrus peel, white flowers and mint. Everything about the 2025 speaks to finesse and class.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Brion Blanc was picked from September 14 to 21 and in this vintage the Sémillon was picked before the Sauvignon Blanc in order to preserve the acidity at this level. Lemon thyme, fennel, touches of Conference pear and light tertiary scents form what is quite a complex bouquet. The palate is well balanced with pleasing weight and fatness, a fine bead of acidity, lightly spiced with a touch of ginger, then quite linear and strict in its final third. Very good potential here, even if I prefer the 2024 and let's face it... not the most inexpensive dry white Bordeaux in recent years.				
Score:92-94					

Haut Bailly		JS:98-99	AG:95-97	NM:96-98	\$60
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A beautiful fruit to this delicate and refined wine. The tannins are perfectly integrated into the wine and almost give it a pinot texture. The finest silk. It's medium-bodied with precise and focused fruit and an endless finish. The exceptional harmony of this young wine makes you want to drink it. 55% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot, 5% cabernet franc and 4% petit verdot. 13.3% alcohol. pH 3.67.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Bailly is fabulous. Here, too, the purity of the fruit is remarkable. Dried herbs, crushed flowers, blood orange, pomegranate, mint and star anise give the 2025 a gorgeous and palpable sense of exoticism. The 2025 impresses with its elegance and finesse. Floral and savory overtones linger on the clean, supremely polished finish. Very fine.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Bailly was picked between September 4 and 22 at 26.6 hl/ha, raised in 50% new oak. Similar to elsewhere this year, I found a distinct difference between the Grand and Deuxième Vins, this possessing greater delineation and complexity. A mixture of brambly red fruit, briar, a touch of cassis and orange rind that is beautifully delineated. The palate is exquisite: very fine tannins, tangible minéralité, very cohesive and focused, with a very complex, peppery finish that goes on and on and on. Svelte, harmonious and tender, this ranks amongst the best vintages from Haut-Bailly in recent years				
Score:96-98					

Haut Bailly II		AG:91-93	NM:90-92
Wines Advocate			
Score:			
James Suckling			
Score:			
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Haut-Bailly II is a gorgeous, wonderfully classy wine. The aromatics are especially prominent. Rose petal, dried herbs, mint, blood orange and cinnamon lend an exotic flair. Medium in body, with silky tannins and fine balance, the Haut-Bailly II is a delight		
Score:91-93			
Neal Martin	The 2025 Haut-Bailly II has a relatively straightforward bouquet with brambly red fruit, cranberry and raspberry, a touch of black olive/iodine and sous-bois in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with vibrant acidity, touches of graphite infusing the red fruit, a little granular in texture, with a slight balsamic edge on the finish. Give this a couple of years in bottle. Good potential.		
Score:90-92			

La Clarté de Haut Brion	RP:91-93	JS:94-95	AG:90-92	NM:89-91	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 La Clarté de Haut-Brion, a blend of 76.5% Sémillon and 23.5% Sauvignon Blanc (50% Haut-Brion and 50% La Mission Haut-Brion), reveals a refined, spicy and fresh bouquet with notes of ripe white fruits. Medium- to full-bodied, round and enveloping, it's built around a core of fruit with notable dry extract, combining freshness with a sense of movement on the palate. It's a particularly successful rendition of this cuvée.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Very lemony, with botanicals and spices on the nose and palate. It's medium-bodied with tangy acidity and a long and flavorful finish. Energetic. 76.5% semillon and 23.5% sauvignon blanc.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Clarté de Haut-Brion is a wine built on serious texture. Lemon confit and mint emerge on the very dense palate, accented by hints of chamomile, acacia and dried flowers. This has real textural presence and the character to match. As a reminder, La Clarté is the second wine of both Haut-Brion and La Mission Haut-Brion.				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Clarté de Haut-Brion has a bright and lively bouquet with scents of white flower, apricot and freshly sliced pear, with just a hint of white chocolate underneath. The palate is well balanced, with a pleasing fatness and weight, counterbalancing acidity keeping it on its toes. Just a dab of stem ginger towards the finish, this is a decent La Clarté de Haut-Brion.				
Score:89-91					

Le Clarence de Haut Brion	RP:91-93	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion, a blend of 66.5% Merlot, 28.3% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5.2% Cabernet Franc, reveals a floral bouquet with pronounced dark fruit, evolving toward cassis and spice with aeration. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and structured, it's built around a deep core of fruit and has more marked freshness on the finish than La Chapelle, lending it a more ethereal profile, enhanced by menthol notes that reinforce this sense of lift. Comparable in density and structure to La Chapelle, it remains somewhat reserved at this stage and will require patience.				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	Structured yet refined, with polished tannins that run the length of the wine. Dark berries, smoke and cedar on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied with very integrated tannins. Classy second wine from Haut Brion.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion is seamless and layered. Dark red-toned fruit, spice, new leather, mocha and plum race across the palate. Deep, ample and super expressive, Le Clarence has a ton to offer. This is very much the younger sibling of the Grand Vin.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Clarence de Haut-Brion has a little more comeliness than the La Chapelle de la Mission, perhaps due to the higher percentage of Merlot (66.5%). Dark cherries, sous-bois, a touch more minéralité coming through by direct comparison. Just a very marginal ash-like scent. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-boned tannins, firm in the mouth, a tad more backbone than expected. Delineated and delivering quite a potent, granular-textured finish, you can feel the mouth tingling with red peppercorns on the aftertaste. Great potential and a very fine Deuxième Vin.				
Score:91-93					

Smith Haut Lafitte		JS:97-98	AG:93-95	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	So aromatic and expressive, with pure currants and mint, plus some chocolate. Fennel too. Wow. Medium-to full-bodied with very deep fruit, fine, velvety tannins and a long, fine texture. The precision and depth are impressive. More fruit-driven than usual. It grows on the palate and is compact at the end. Very cabernet in the end. Almost like St.-Julien and Pauillac in nature. A blend of 68% cabernet sauvignon, 27% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Smith Haut Lafitte is a very classy, elegant wine. Lavender, spice and mint open first, followed by a burst of black/purplish fruit. Medium in body, with terrific freshness, the 2025 is impeccably done. The lighter style vis-à-vis most years is quite attractive				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Smith Haut Lafitte was picked between September 3 and 30 at 28 hl/ha and raised in 50% new oak. It has a well-defined bouquet with mainly black fruit intertwined with Earl Grey, sous-bois and cigar box scents, a much more classical style of Smith HautLafitte compared to recent vintages. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, a subtle tobacco note that percolates through the black fruit, more structure coming through towards the sapid finish with a dash of black pepper on the aftertaste. This will fill out in barrel and should become a refined and quite delicious Smith Haut-Lafitte that will repay time in bottle.				
Score:95-97					

Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc		JS:98-99	AG:94-96	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Bright, vibrant aromas of sliced apples, pears and lemons with some acacia and flint. The palate is dense and tight, with so much chalk and oyster shell character. Extremely long and pure, with vivid energy at the end. Sharp and driven by acidity. A blend of 90% sauvignon blanc, 5% semillon and 5% sauvignon gris.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc is superb. Rich, creamy and expansive on the palate, with fabulous balance, the 2025 is seriously impressive and very delicious. Dried pear, acacia, chamomile and white pepper open beautifully. The Blanc is quite delicate at first, but it gains breadth through the mid-palate and into the finish. Impeccable				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc was picked early between August 20 and September 2. It was raised in 50% new oak, and has quite a discrete bouquet with white peach, Mirabelle, jasmine and light pressed flower aromas. The palate is very well balanced with a rounded texture, a little more weight and density than other whites that I have tasted, quite peppery towards the finish and lingering in the mouth. This is a great success in the context of a warm vintage.				
Score:94-96					

Les Carmes Haut Brion	RP:95-98	JS:99-100	AG:96-98	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Les Carmes Haut-Brion is a blend of 54% Cabernet Franc, 29% Cabernet Sauvignon and 17% Merlot, one of the highest proportions of Cabernet Franc at the estate and comparable to 2016. It was vinified with 65% whole clusters and matured in 70% new oak. It reveals a complex, harmonious bouquet of pomegranate, iris and peony, intertwined with cassis, mulberries and dark berries.				
Score:95-98	Medium- to full-bodied, dense and structured, it's deep and layered, its concentrated core of fruit framed by velvety structuring tannins, concluding with a long, mineral-inflected finish. Combining tension with an ethereal profile, it delivers remarkable clarity, freshness and elegance. While slightly more overtly structured at this stage than the prodigious 2022, it remains impeccably balanced.				
James Suckling	The precision is so seductive and intellectual, with aromas of fresh flowers, iron, graphite, cedar, blood oranges and black fruit. It's medium-bodied with a compact palate of intense tannins that melt into the wine. Rather weightless in nature. It kicks in at the end with incredible intensity and focus. 13% alcohol. 65% whole cluster. 54% cabernet franc, 29% cabernet sauvignon and 17% merlot, mostly co-fermented.				
Score:99-100					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Les Carmes Haut-Brion is a huge, powerful wine that is going to need many years to come into its own. Dark red/purplish fruit, lavender, incense, melted road tar and licorice make a bold entrance. Fertility in the Merlots was low. As a result, the 2025 has the highest amount of Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon ever, 83% in total as opposed to the more typical 70% or so. Whole clusters, always a part of the approach here, are 65%. Time on skins was 45 days at 27°C (80.6°F) compared to the 35 days at 30°C (86°F) that is more typical. Readers will find an especially deep, potent Carmes, a wine that will need the better part of a decade to shed some of its considerable baby fat. It's a telling example of the vintage, with 1% less alcohol than in most recent years. Today the 2025 is a mere infant. It's another exceptional wine from Technical Director Guillaume Pouthier and his team.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Les Carmes Haut-Brion comes from clay-limestone soils and was picked from September 7 to 19, with a high level of Cabernet Franc (54%) and lower Merlot (17%). This vintage has 65% whole cluster, similar to 2022, raised in 70% new oak barrels, 19% in 18hl foudres and 11% amphoras. This takes time to open on the nose: blacker, darker fruit than the Le C, black plum and touches of iris flower. Very pure, very well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannins on the entry, crunchy in the mouth, black fruit interlace with Earl Grey, subtle ash-like notes. Linear towards the finish but very sustained in the mouth, there is plenty of energy in this Les Carmes-Haut-Brion and it should age with style and grace. More sapidity on the finish than the Dead Sea. 13.1% alcohol.				
Score:95-97					

Pape Clement		JS:95-96	AG:95-97	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A linear and very tight red with black currant, blackberry and hazelnut undertones. It's medium- to full-bodied with firm and racy tannins and a savory finish. Lots of tannins, but they are very fine textured and show outstanding length. 60% merlot, 36% cabernet sauvignon, 3% cabernet franc and 1% petit verdot				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pape Clément is magnificent. The aromatics alone are captivating. Strong floral and savory notes soar from the glass. Lavender, rose petal, sage, mint and mocha lead into a core of wonderfully vibrant red/purplish fruit. Medium in body and deep, Pape Clément is positively stellar in 2025. The Cabernets and Petit Verdot add tons of aromatic presence. Élevage is 85% in barrique and 15% in foudre, with a relatively modest 33% new oak.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pape Clément was picked between September 3 and 25, fermented using their own yeast strains and matured in 85% barrel (one-third new) and the remainder in foudres. A large amount of the Cabernet Sauvignon was picked after the rain on September 20, using optical sorting, and underwent a gentle extraction with a shorter maceration up to 26°C. It has quite an opulent bouquet, with luxuriant black cherries, blueberry and blood orange scents, a touch of peppermint emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied and delivers quite a grip on the entry, with layered black fruit, quite compact on the mid-palate, a little hard-edged on the finish, though that should soften during the barrel maturation. Quite dense on the finish, this is an impressive Pape Clément but it needs to foment more charm by the time of bottling.				
Score:93-95					

Pape Clement Blanc		JS:97-98	AG:96-98	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	This is enveloping, with a broad textural element running throughout. It's bright and incisive, yet with a blanket of fruit that extends across the palate. Flavorful and long. A blend of 56% sauvignon blanc, 30% semillon and 14% sauvignon gris. Aged in barrels, foudres, concrete, amphorae and stainless steel.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	Rich, vivid and textured, the 2025 Pape Clément Blanc is outrageously beautiful. Lemon confit, marzipan, white flowers, tangerine peel, mint and white pepper soar from the glass. All the elements are so well balanced. This builds beautifully through to the intense, palate-staining finish. In 2025, the Blanc is quite simply magnificent-clearly one of the wines of the vintage.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pape Clément Blanc was picked August 20 to 25 and matured in 65% barrels, of which one-third is new. This is quite aromatic on the nose with yellow plum, marzipan and touches of patisserie. The palate is well balanced and certainly less heavy and "worked" compared to vintages that I tasted a decade ago. Fine acidity, quite fresh and tangy, with a dab of white pepper towards the finish. This should be drinking with just a few months in bottle.				
Score:91-93					

Domaine De Chevalier	RP:93-95	JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:94-96	\$62
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Domaine de Chevalier, a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, was harvested between September 11 and 26—an unusually early finish—with yields of 35 hectoliters per hectare. It reveals a bouquet marked by oak, with notes of spice, dark berries, lead pencil and licorice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and deep, it's built around a substantial chassis of tannins and framed by powdery, youthful structure, concluding with a long, firm and structured finish, reflecting the wine's inherent density.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	The depth of fruit comes through clearly, with a medium body and plenty of berry, chocolate, walnut and bark aromas. Creamy and polished, with a lovely texture and a long and rather endless finish. Soft and precise. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot and 5% petit verdot.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Domaine de Chevalier is a total stunner. The oak imprint is a bit strong, but the 2025 possesses notable richness and textural depth to handle it all. Signature red-toned fruit and floral overtones soar through the layered, expansive close.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Domaine de Chevalier was picked from 11 to 26 September at 38 hl/ha with an alcohol level of 12.5%. This is perfumed on the nose with raspberry, cassis and light iris flower scents, just a touch of truffle in the background. You need to wait because this "grows" in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with granular tannins. Very harmonious, quintessentially Pessac, gravel-tinged black fruit, almost pillowy in texture, yet there is certainly decent structure here with just the right amount of grip towards the finish. It will require less bottle age than, say, the 2020 or 2022, yet it is endowed with real complexity and classicism. It is Domaine de Chevalier, after all.				
Score:94-96					

Domaine De Chevalier Blanc	RP:93-95	JS:98-99	AG:97-99	NM:91-93	\$123
Wines Advocate	The Domaine de Chevalier 2025 Blanc reveals an expressive bouquet of white fruits—pear and white peach—alongside floral notes. Medium- to full-bodied, it's dense yet remarkably fresh and precise, with a crystalline, ethereal profile. Both aromatic and concentrated, it combines depth with clarity, concluding with a long, ethereal and perfumed finish. Once again, this is a fine success and surely one of the most precise white wines produced in Bordeaux this year.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	A tight and powerful wine with a precise and structured texture. Restrained, steely and racy. Goes on for minutes. So much intensity. A bright and shining white. Stunning balance. Alcohol 13.5%. A blend of 70% sauvignon blanc and 30% semillon.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc gets my vote for the white wine of the vintage. Rich and powerful in the glass, but also beautifully vibrant, the 2025 dazzles from start to finish. Lemon confit, pear, slate, mint, white flowers and tangerine peel are some of the many aromas and flavors that develop over time. The 2025 is quite simply stunning. Don't miss it!				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc was picked from August 25 to September 6 at 38 hl/ha. It has a more backward, slightly reserved nose than I was expecting. It is keeping its cards hidden for now. The palate is well balanced, with good weight, fine density, touches of freshly sliced pear, stem ginger and lemon peel, though it feels linear and correct on the finish. Very fine, but I suspect it will reveal its true identity after bottling.				
Score:91-93					

Carbonnieux	RP:92-94	JS:95-96	AG:92-94	NM:91-93	\$38
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Carbonnieux is a fine success, wafting from the glass with aromas of dark berries, cassis and flowers, accented by delicate spice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense, layered and well balanced, it is built around a core of fruit with good depth and framed by velvety, precise tannins, concluding with a long, perfumed and ethereal finish. This is a compelling value.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	A very bright wine with beautiful balance and freshness. Violets, raspberries and currants on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied with clarity and fine, integrated tannins. Hints of flint and graphite at the end. One of the best Carbonnieux in a long time. 45% merlot, 45% cabernet sauvignon, 5% cabernet franc and 5% petit verdot				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Carbonnieux packs a pretty substantial punch. Dark-toned fruit, gravel, incense, licorice, dried herbs, menthol and espresso infuse the palate with tremendous depth. The tannins are quite broad and chocolatey, but they are very nicely balanced.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Carbonnieux has a well-defined bouquet with lifted blackberry, cassis and violet scents, showing more harmony and focus than previous vintages that had left me a little underwhelmed. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, fine acidity, upfront black fruit laced with graphite and black pepper towards the finish. This is a step in the right direction for Carbonnieux after a decidedly mixed period.				
Score:91-93					

Carbonnieux Blanc		JS:94-95	AG:90-92	NM:88-90	\$44
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	This shows semillon character with aromas of dried apples, pears, spices, dried lemon peel and lemon curd. It's full-bodied, layered and rich, with flavors of fruit and grape skin. Fascinating waxy finish. One of the earliest harvests ever, starting on August 19. A blend of 55% sauvignon blanc and 45% semillon.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Carbonnieux Blanc is a brilliant, tense wine with good depth and plenty of drive. Green pear, lemon peel, tomato leaf, sage, mint and white pepper are very nicely fashioned in this tasty dry white.				
Score:90-92					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Carbonnieux Blanc has a light, delicate nose, with pretty apple blossom and Anjou pear scents. Like recent vintages, it just needs more oomph (technical term, but you know what I mean). The palate has matchstick reduction on the entry, and this suppresses the finish and detracts from the brightness and charm. This was less evident on a second bottle. Hopefully this will be addressed by the time of bottling, but I remain prudent for now.				
Score:88-90					

Latour Martillac		RP:90-92	JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:89-91	\$37
Wines Advocate	Elegant and harmonious, the 2025 Latour Martillac wafts from the glass with aromas of cassis, mulberries, lead pencil and spice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and concentrated, it's built around a fleshy core of fruit and framed by an assertive tannic structure, concluding with a long, spicy finish. More reserved on the palate than the nose suggests, it should gain in depth and balance with élevage.					
Score:90-92						
James Suckling	Focused and juicy, with a medium body and fine, ripe tannins. Generously fruited, with a dense center palate and a chocolaty finish.					
Score:93-94						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Latour-Martillac is quite powerful and imposing but nicely balanced. Dark red/purplish fruit, mocha and floral notes convey quite a bit of brightness to balance the natural intensity of the year. There's gorgeous substance here. Tasted two times					
Score:92-94						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Latour-Martillac shows a little sur-maturite on the nose, slightly pruneey, which detracts from its definition. The palate is medium-bodied, with dry tannins, quite structured and "serious" in style, grippy but just a bit laboured on the finish. I much prefer the white this year.					
Score:89-91						

Latour Martillac Blanc		JS:93-94	AG:85-87	NM:93-95	\$38
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A chiseled, medium- to full-bodied wine combining texture and fruit, with acidity that brings cohesion and depth complemented by good concentration.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Latour-Martillac Blanc shows good energy and drive, but falls short on the midpalate, which accentuates the attenuated finish. It would be nice to see more mid-palate depth. Tasted two times.				
Score:85-87					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Latour-Martillac Blanc plays with a light reduction on the nose, quite mineral, with touches of sea spray coming through with time. The palate is well balanced and cohesive, with fine acidity, one of the most complex whites from this Pessac-Léognan estate that I have encountered, and it lingers on the saline finish. Bravo				
Score:93-95					

Malartic Lagraviere		RP:88-90	JS:95-96	AG:93-95	NM:92-94	\$48
Wines Advocate	Introverted and shy at this stage, the 2025 Malartic Lagravière reveals aromas of spice, lead pencil and dark berries. Medium- to full-bodied, structured and somewhat lean, it shows a firm profile and concludes with a spicy, lead pencil–inflected finish.					
Score:88-90						
James Suckling	The quality of the tannins shows through nicely, with black currants, orange peel, crushed stones and a hint of fresh herbs. It's medium-bodied with a creamy texture and lots of polish. Long, complete and succulent, with a touch of salt. A blend of 57.5% cabernet sauvignon, 39% merlot, 3% petit verdot and 0.5% cabernet franc.					
Score:95-96						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Malartic Lagravière is a dark, sumptuous beauty. Black cherry, menthol, licorice, dried herbs, chocolate and cloves convey virile, almost somber, intensity. Muscular tannins add to that impression. The 2025 is going to need time to be at its most expressive, but it has a ton of potential. Tasted three times.					
Score:93-95						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Malartic Lagravière has a pretty nose with pure blackberry, cedar and graphite notes, turning more floral and Margaux-like with time in the glass. The oak is very well integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, gentle grip, fine acidity and a smooth finish that has a patina of new oak that needs to be integrated with a couple of years in bottle. Promising, but has it got something extra up its sleeve?					
Score:92-94						

Malartic Lagraviere Blanc		JS:96-97	V:91-93	NM:92-94	\$72
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	This is so classy, with polish, transparency, a medium body and fresh acidity. Linear and racy, with a bright, icy finish and a steely and lightly bitter character at the end. An outstanding white.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Malartic-Lagravière Blanc is deep and quite powerful in the glass. Lemon peel, white flowers, chalk, mint and white pepper confer energy and intensity. This is an especially rich, potent vintage for the Blanc. Tasted three times.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Malartic-Lagravière Blanc has a well-defined nose, but perhaps like the Domaine de Chevalier Blanc, it feels bashful at this early stage. The palate is well balanced, with a peachy entry and, here, it is more expressive, with hints of mango and Clementine, just a little oak guiding the finish. Not quite up there with the outstanding'24, but close.				
Score:92-94					

SAINT EMILION	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Cheval Blanc	RP:98-100	JS:97-98	AG:96-99	NM:95-97	\$585
Wines Advocate	A blend of 51% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Franc and 4% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2025 Château Cheval Blanc stands out once again as among the finest wines of the vintage in Bordeaux. Wafting from the glass with a deep bouquet of dark berries and cherries mingled with notions of blood orange and iris, it's full-bodied, layered and concentrated, with terrific mid-palate density, sweet tannins and a long, vibrant, violet-inflected finish. With its striking aromas, intensity of flavor and resolutely classical proportions (checking in at 12.7% alcohol and pH of 3.76), the 2025 gives every indication of being one of the great Cheval Blancs of the decade				
Score:98-100					
James Suckling	Perfumed, with aromas of flowers, brambleberries and wild berries. Medium-bodied with tight, fine tannins that run forever on the palate. Hints of cedar, mushrooms and bark. Crunchy at the end. Just a hint of fancy bitterness and chocolate. Transparent and complete.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Cheval Blanc is seamless and textured. A wine of mystery and seduction, the 2025 dazzles. Time in the glass brings out the wine's tension and energy. Sage, mint, lavender, cloves and cool, blue-toned fruit all build in the glass. In one tasting, Cheval Blanc was massively tannic; in a second tasting, those tannins were much more seamless, highlighting how differently wines can show from day to day. In the case of Cheval Blanc, en primeur samples are mini-bottlings, and both samples I tasted came from the same batch. Yields in 2025 were just 15 hectolitres per hectare, tiny by any measure. The winemaking team, led by Pierre-Olivier Clouet, used 46 of the 47 parcels on the estate for the Grand Vin. A small amount of wine was sold in bulk; the rest was bottled as Grand Vin. There is no Petit Cheval. Time on skins ran from 26 to 32 days, longer than the 22-28 that's more typical. For those who care about the date, alcohol is just 12.7%, which is hard to believe, with brisk acids that clock in at 3.76 pH. In many vintages Cheval Blanc can be exuberant, but the 2025 is rather closed, more of an intellectual wine that will require years in bottle to truly show everything it has to offer.				
Score:96-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Cheval Blanc includes all 47 plots on the estate except one that was sold off. This nose is more immediate than some of its neighbours, a mixture of blackcurrant, raspberry, strawberry and blueberry, very expressive, underneath which lie tobacco and graphite scents. It is open, nothing hidden here. The palate is medium-bodied with sapid red berry fruit, just a touch of black pepper, a more reserved and structured Cheval Blanc than usual, vertical in style, the Cabernet Franc driving the finish. Not what I would call a sensual Cheval Blanc, but it has a distinctive character. Not everyone is going to fall head over heels for this Cheval Blanc because it is uncompromising, and I like that. Just be patient. This will need time.				
Score:95-97					

Ausone	RP:97-99	AG:95-97	NM:96-98
Wines Advocate	A blend of 65% Cabernet Franc, 30% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2025 Château Ausone unwinds in the glass with notes of sweet raspberries and mulberries mingled with notions of mint, rose petals and blood orange. Medium- to full-bodied, lively and perfumed, with lovely energy, exquisitely refined tannins and a bright, precise finish, it shows extraordinary potential. Some discreet changes are underway at this address, with picking (between September 2 and 23) broken up plot by plot to a greater degree; a review of the estate's cooperage choices in pursuit of better integration; and, at least this year, no second wine for the first time since 1994—given the quality of Ausone's terroir and vine material, that seems entirely reasonable. The result is one of the most refined, classy Ausone vintages in recent years, and it will be exciting to follow these evolutions over the years to come.		
Score:97-99			
James Suckling			
Score:			
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Ausone is powerful, dense and packed to the core. Readers will have to be patient with the 2025, as it is quite reticent. In 2025, the Vauthier family did not produce a second wine at Ausone. Consequently, the blend in the Grand Vin is a bit different than in most years, at 65% Cabernet Franc, 30% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Time in the glass brings out hints of blood orange, rose petal, mint and raspberry jam. It will be fascinating to see how the 2025 ages		
Score:95-97			
Neal Martin	The 2025 Ausone represents the entirety of the vineyard this year after trial blends convinced the Vauthiers not to make a Chapelle d'Ausone. There is also 5% Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend for the first time, from five tiny plots located on a terrace close to the quarry, so that heat reflects off the wall to ensure ripening. It was picked between September 2 and 23. Almost immediately, I noticed how that soupçon of Cabernet Sauvignon tilts the style of the Grand Vin in a different and, to my mind, positive direction. Beautifully defined, a little more sapid, perhaps just a tad less precocious than usual, there is a sense of classicism in this Ausone that I admire, terroir over growing season perhaps? The palate is medium-bodied with pliant tannins, real depth, silky smooth, with layers of blackberry and raspberry fruit and hints of white pepper and clove. Very long, with a peacock's tail on the finish, this is a fascinating and alluring Ausone that will age with style.		
Score:			

Chapelle D'Ausone				
Wines Advocate				
Score:				
James Suckling				
Score:				
Antonio Galloni				
Score:				
Neal Martin	There are no Chapelle d'Ausone this year. The young vines are now 17 years old, and the fruit is in the Grand Vin			
Score:				

Belair Monange	RP:93-95	JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	\$147
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Château Belair-Monange opens in the glass with rich aromas of sweet cherries, berry preserve and fruit compote mingled with hints of licorice and spices. Medium- to full-bodied, satiny and suave, it's lively and polished, with a rich core of sun-kissed fruit and a youthfully structured finish.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	Tight and firm, with toned tannins that run the length of the wine and create energy in the finish of crushed stones and chalk. Medium- to full-bodied. Its power spreads nicely across the palate. 98% merlot and 2% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Bélair-Monange is another outstanding wine from Saint-Émilion's plateau in this very challenging vintage. Aromatic, sculpted and wonderfully precise, Bélair-Monange marries power with finesse. Floral overtones, blood orange and a kick of exotic spice meld into red-toned fruit as the 2025 shows off its considerable allure. Clean saline notes appear on the mid-palate, adding tension and energy through to the reverberating finish.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Bélair-Monange was picked between September 4 and 19 and matured in 50% new oak. This has a classy nose, understated at first, exquisite delineation, nuanced with its mixture of red and black fruit, sage, undergrowth and light rose petal scents, real purity. The palate is armed with a satin-like texture, real depth and gentle grip, yet discreet and poised with disarming pliancy and fluidity on the almost viscous finish. Real umami sensation with this wine. This is a sophisticated Bélair-Monange that will give decades of drinking pleasure.				
Score:95-97					

Pavie		JS:98-99	AG:96-98	NM:92-94	\$270
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	The cabernet franc really comes through, with fine, intense, racy tannins and great length. Chalky and focused. More restrained than past vintages, with superb tension at the end. The most cabernet franc-driven Pavie ever. And it works so well. Precise is the word				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pavie is a total stunner. What a wine. Rich and dazzling in its intensity, the 2025 hits all the right notes. Inky dark red/purplish fruit, exotic spice, mocha, espresso and pomegranate literally stain the palate. The 2025 is going to require the better part of a decade to unwind, but it has a ton of potential and a very bright future. This is the first time Cabernet Franc is the dominant variety in the Grand Vin. The 2025 has plenty of textural intensity readers have come to expect, but less of the heavy extraction that marked the earlier years.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Pavie was picked at just 21 hl/ha, the lowest ever, plus this is the first vintage with 60% Cabernet Franc from plantings in the 2000s. Matured in 65% new oak, the aromatics are far superior, more cohesive and purer than the Arômes cuvée. Still very plush and luxuriant, it has that purity, although it needs more delineation and terroir expression to come through. The palate is actually better than the nose and I appreciate the contribution that the Cabernet Franc makes in this wine, delivering fine structure and tension that I believe you would not have obtained if there were higher Merlot. Satisfying precision on the finish, this feels long in the mouth with cracked black pepper on the aftertaste. It is a different take on Pavie due to the different blend and if the aromatics can gain more complexity and nuance, then it could be an interesting proposition once in bottle.				
Score:92-95					

Angelus	RP:96-98	JS:99-100	AG:95-97+	NM:95-97	\$346
Wines Advocate	A blend of equal parts Cabernet Franc and Merlot, the 2025 Angéus is already beautifully harmonious, even at this early stage. Unfurling in the glass with notes of sweet dark berries and plums mingled with notions of violets, licorice and spices, it's medium- to full-bodied, layered and multidimensional, with ripe tannins, lively acids and a long, perfumed finish. Much like its 2022 predecessor, the 2025 underlines that this estate's shift toward greater purity and subtler élevage choices can be sustained even in historically warm years.				
Score:96-98					
James Suckling	The pureness of fruit is exceptional, with a long and linear palate of wonderfully curated raspberry, cherry and blueberry aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied. You almost don't see the tannins, but you know they are there. So silky and endless. It has the core of fruit of the best of the vintage. 50% merlot and 50% cabernet franc.				
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Angéus (50% Cabernet Franc, 50% Merlot) is a superb contemporary Grand Vin. Aromatic, vibrant and wonderfully fresh, the 2025 dazzles from start to finish. Blood orange, mint, white pepper, rose petal and chalk weave through layers of vibrant redtoned fruit. Here, too, the Grand Vin impresses with its noble purity and understated grace. Élevage is 50% foudre/50% new oak for the Cabernet Franc, and 60% new oak/40% once-filled barrels for the Merlot. I can't wait to see how this ages.				
Score:95-97+					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Angéus was picked from September 10 to 20 and Stéphanie de Bouard told me that they halved the pumpovers. The Cabernet Franc is aged half in foudres and half in new barrel, and the Merlot is half in new barrel and half in one-year-old barrels that were used for the 2023 vintage. The alcohol is 14.05% with a pH of 3.6, many grapes showing a gram or more malic acid. This note comes from a narrower Riedel glass that showed the wine in a better and more accurate light. The bouquet opens with blackberry, raspberry, light cassis scents and a touch of iodine, well defined, the oak seated politely in the background. The palate is silky smooth with filigree tannins, very well judged acidity plus palpable underlying sapid notes that come through towards the finish. Fine tension, very focused with a very persistent aftertaste, this is an Aneglus with great potential and it should give 25 to 30 years' drinking pleasure.				
Score:95-97					

Beausejour Duffau	RP:96-98	JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 69% Merlot and 31% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 Beauséjour (Duffau Lagarrosse) unwinds in the glass with notes of violets and sweet wild berries, displaying lovely purity and integration. Medium- to full-bodied, concentrated and layered, with bright acids, ripe tannins and a penetrating finish, it's Joséphine Duffau Lagarrosse's most accomplished wine to date, showing just what this exceptional limestone terroir is capable of.				
Score:96-98					
James Suckling	So much clarity and precision in this wine. Medium-bodied, restrained and elegant, with a subtle, chalky texture and a very fine, even structure. Elegant, precise profile. 69% merlot and 31% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Beauséjour J. Duffau-Lagarrosse is a fabulous, contemporary Saint-Émilion. Notes of lavender, rose petal and mocha lift the effortless bouquet. Silky tannins and deceptively mid-weight structure are some of the signatures. Stylistically, Beauséjour is one of the most aromatic, understated wines in Saint-Émilion. Bright red-toned fruit, spice and pomegranate unfold with time in the glass.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Beauséjour J. Duffau-Lagarrosse was picked from 9 to 19 September (the earliest ever) at 39 hl/ha, relatively high for Saint-Émilion though what seems to be the norm for those on the limestone plateau. Aged in 55% new oak, it has a very nuanced bouquet with pure Morello cherry, blueberry and cassis fruit, violet and iris emerging with time in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannins, similar to those found on the Left Bank this year, edgy and tensile, energetic and certainly translating the limestone soils, hints of shucked oyster shell emerging with time. Finely balanced with impressive length, in some ways this is an uncompromising Saint-Émilion that is all about the terroir. Linear towards the finish, this will fill out, gain a bit of flesh during its élevage and it should require maybe three or four years in bottle before it's ready to rock 'n roll.				
Score:94-96					

Canon	RP:96-99	JS:98-99	AG:98-100	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 76% Merlot and 24% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 Canon continues this property's brilliant decade-long run of exceptional wines. Unwinding in the glass with a complex bouquet of cherries and raspberries mingled with hints of exotic spices, licorice and petals, it's medium- to full-bodied, suave and concentrated, with a bright spine of acidity and a long, penetrating finish. Harvest stretched from August 28 to September 18				
Score:96-99					
James Suckling	The finesse and sophistication are very impressive, with a medium body, ultra-fine tannins and a rather endless finish. It's medium-bodied and poised. Great length. A great wine.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Canon is a total stunner. Deep and sumptuous in the glass, it offers tons of the vintage's textural intensity along with all the vibrant, saline energy that is such a signature here. Dark-fleshed fruit, mocha, new leather, herbs and dried flowers build gradually in the glass, leading to a huge, dramatic finish laced with hints of blood orange, pomegranate and chalk. The interplay of finesse and power is dazzling. Tasted two times.				
Score:98-100					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Canon was picked between August 28 and September 18 at 40 hl/ha. This is very pure and refined on the nose, with wonderful delineation, not as flattering as, say, the 2015 or 2019 at this stage, yet very focused and mineral-driven. The palate is medium-bodied with filigree tannins, quite sapid, with a pinch of cracked black pepper. Like its "sister", Berliquet, the limestone terroir comes through and seems to "tingle" on the finish. Maybe not a crowd-pleaser, but I like its uncompromising nature that reflects its place of birth.				
Score:96-98					

La Gaffelière	RP:90-92	JS:94-95	AG:97-99	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 La Gaffelière reveals an open, expressive bouquet of cassis, with a vivid fruit profile that becomes more floral with aeration. Medium- to full-bodied, it's more reserved on the palate, built around a firm, limestone-inflected structure, with tannins that show a touch of dryness at this stage. The contrast between aromatic generosity and structural restraint will likely resolve with élevage.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling	Well driven, velvety and precise, with red berry and leather aromas. Medium-bodied with fine, firm tannins. Crushed berry and dark chocolate flavors and a compact, savory finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Gaffelière soars out of the glass with magnificent intensity. Strong Cabernet Franc overtones and bright saline notes from the clay-limestone plateau are finely sketched with tremendous precision. The 2025 bristles with tension from start to finish. It's a phenomenal wine by any measure. Tasted two times.				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Gaffelière undergoes malo in barrel and matures in 50% new oak barrels and the remainder in one-year oak, 12% in demi-muids and 4% amphorae. It continues a strong run of form for this rejuvenated Saint-Émilion, with quite ebullient raspberry and wild strawberry scents, a dash of black pepper and brown spices, the Cabernet Franc shaping the aromatics and giving it a Pomerol-like personality. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins, impressive weight, quite peppery and tensile; this maintains density and grip through to the long finish. This is a great wine that has great personality and charm.				
Score:95-97					

Bellevue		JS:94-95	AG:92-94		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A medium-bodied red with crushed stone, blackberries, blueberries and a crunchy finish. Medium body. Very polished and pretty. 100% merlot.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Bellevue, 100% Merlot, offers a beguiling mix of intense dark fruit and brilliant, mineral-infused overtones. Black cherry, chalk, mint, white pepper and bracing saline notes saturate the palate. Bellevue is a wine to forget about in the cellar for at least a decade.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Barde Haut			AG:93-95	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Barde-Haut is a powerful and resonant. Macerated dark cherry, spice, new leather, cedar and menthol confer tons of intensity. Broad and ample, with notable textural intensity, Barde-Haut is a highly representative wine from Saint-Émilion's Saint Christophe des Bardes sector. This builds beautifully with a bit of time in the glass.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Barde-Haut was picked at around 35 hl/ha between September 13 and 17. This has a fragrant bouquet with raspberry and crushed strawberry scents, which becomes just a tad darker as it aerates, hints of violet and cassis emerging with time. The palate is medium-bodied with smooth tannins, quite plush yet balanced in style, touches of white pepper and graphite towards the elegant, pastille-like finish. This is a promising BardeHaut that will require just three or four years in bottle.				
Score:92-94					

Le Carillon d'Angélus		RP:90-92	JS:94-95	AG:91-93	NM:91-93	\$86
Wines Advocate	Dominated by 90% Merlot, the 2025 Le Carillon d'Angélus derives from 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. Exhibiting notes of cherries, red berries and orange zest, it's medium- to full-bodied, pure and precise, with a fleshy core of fruit, sweet tannins and lively acids that lend it a suave but serious profile.					
Score:90-92						
James Suckling	A solid core of cherry and berry fruit on a medium body with salty and flinty undertones. Very bright and vivid with a crunchy finish. Creamy and pretty already. Attractive center palate. 90% merlot and 10% cabernet franc.					
Score:94-95						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Carillon d'Angélus is another gorgeous wine from the De Bouärd family. Dark-fleshed fruit, leather, incense and licorice convey somber intensity. This is far from an easygoing wine. Readers should plan on cellaring this for at least a few years, as it is quite potent in the early going. Gravel and lavender develop toward the long, beautifully resonant finish.					
Score:91-93						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Carillon d'Angélus is raised in 50% new oak, 25% used barrel and 25% in stainless-steel vat. It has a well-defined and focused bouquet with blackberry, blueberry, light oyster shell/estuarine scents that lend another dimension (these were accentuated by the thinner Riedel glass that I requested). The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, well balanced, a tad more tension than the No. 3, with more depth on the finish. Gentle grip, quite linear in style, but there is satisfying persistency on the finish. Very fine.					
Score:91-93						

Grand Mayne		RP:92-94	JS:92-93	AG:93-95	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Grand Mayne reveals a fresh, expressive bouquet of dark berries, cassis and mulberries, becoming more floral with aeration. Medium- to full-bodied, it's supple and enveloping, with a velvety texture and a refined, well-defined tannic frame, concluding with a fresh, elegant finish marked by dark berry nuances. This is a more restrained, finely tuned expression than in previous vintages, aligning closely with the estate's recent stylistic evolution.					
Score:92-94						
James Suckling	Solid, well framed and dense. Dark berry and warm spice aromas follow through to a medium body with chewy tannins. Plenty of purple fruit character on the palate, with a chewy finish					
Score:92-93						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Grand Mayne is impressive. Dark, layered and vibrant, Grand Mayne has so much to offer. Dark-toned fruit, new leather, licorice, mocha and a kiss of French oak all meld together in the glass. This big, broad-shouldered Saint-Émilion displays very fine balance and tons of character. Tasted two times					
Score:93-95						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Grand Mayne is very refined and poised on the nose, fresher than many of its Right Bank peers, with red berry fruit, cedar and subtle sous-bois scents. The palate is framed by very supple tannins, matched by a keen line of acidity, lightly spiced, very cohesive, with a prolonged and elegant finish. Just a great Saint-Émilion 2025 that should age with style.					
Score:93-95						

Berliquet	RP:95-97	JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	A blend of 61% Merlot and 39% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 Berliquet is the best wine to emerge from this ascendent property yet. Bursting with aromas of sweet dark berries, licorice and violets, it's medium- to full-bodied, rich and suave, with beautifully refined tannins, lively acids and a seamless, complete profile. The estate's new winery, inaugurated with the 2023 vintage, permits harvesting block by block with greater precision. Readers who haven't been following Berliquet's progress should make a special effort to seek out the superb 2025.				
Score:95-97					
James Suckling	Well composed, textured and precise, with aromas of dark berries and stones. Medium-bodied with fine tannins. Driven and layered with a long, vivid finish.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Berliquet is precise, elegant and nuanced—adjectives I have not used often here, but that sum up the level of the 2025. Floral overtones, red berry fruit, mint and spice are beautifully delineated in the glass. The 2025 opens beautifully with a bit of time, showing notable breadth and layers. This is the finest Berliquet since Chanel's acquisition in 2017. Tasted two times				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Berliquet was picked September 3 to 17 and is aged in 38% new barrels and 23% amphora, which are being increased slightly each year. This has a very refined bouquet, lifted and quite floral, black cherry and blueberry, a little creaminess, in fact, quite Canon-like in style. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp acidity on the entry. The limestone really comes through and underlies this Berliquet, almost like a white wine, as if someone crumbled it into the wine. That's terroir for you. It lends plenty of freshness and another layer of complexity on the finish. This is one of the best vintages of Berliquet that I have tasted from barrel.				
Score:94-96					

La Dominique		JS:94-95	AG:94-96	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Focused and curated, with very long, fine tannins that take the wine on a journey. Nicely ripe fruit with berry and light hazelnut undertones. This is going to an excellent wine in the bottle.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Dominique is terrific. This is one of the best vintages of La Dominique I can remember tasting. Aromatic, silky and exceptionally polished, La Dominique impresses right out of the gate. Bracing saline notes extend the clean, reverberating finish. A sleeper				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Dominique is a significant step up from the Deuxième Vin this year: vivid red and black fruit, a touch of cedar and a more floral style, with violet and iris flowers. Fine delineation. The palate is well balanced, with rounded, velvety tannins, good depth and a judicious touch of white pepper sprinkled over the finish. This should drink well for 15 to 20 years.				
Score:92-94					

Saintayme		JS:94-95	AG:91-93	NM:86-88	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Full-bodied with plenty of flesh and dark fruit throughout. Very attractive richness, with fine-grained, polished tannins that persist through the finish. Solid and unique.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Saintayme is a gorgeous Saint-Émilion from the Durantou sisters. This is the first year in which the blend is 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc as opposed to the 100% Merlot of past years. Intense red-toned fruit, flowers, citrus and spice—all Franc signatures—soar across the palate. The 2025 is vibrant and so expressive right out of the gate. It's a total delight.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Saintayme was picked from 20 to 10 September and, for the first time, there is Cabernet Franc in the blend from a parcel that is usually put into a generic blend. It has a light bouquet at first, opening nicely in the glass, just a touch of strawberry. The palate is medium-bodied with chalky tannins on the entry. Light red fruit, leaner than Durantou's other cuvées, with an easy-going finish.				
Score:86-88					

Canon La Gaffelière		JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:91-93	\$61
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A deep and layered young red with blackberry, black olive and white pepper character with a full body and savory fruit. White pepper and other spices. Depth with elegance. Extremely well crafted. A blend of 45% cabernet franc, 40% merlot and 15% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Canon La Gaffelière is bright and beautifully focused right out of the gate. Orange peel, sage, mint, pipe tobacco, dried flowers and mocha soar out of the glass. Floral aromatics and brisk saline notes are the signatures in a tightly wound Canon La Gaffelière that is going to need a number of years to be at its most expressive. I especially admire the energy here.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Canon La Gaffelière includes only 40% Merlot this year, the remainder, 45% Cabernet Franc and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, picked between September 16 and 19. Matured in 30% new oak barrels, this has a tightly wound nose with blackberry, briar and chalky scents, the Cabernet Franc imparting light graphite scents. The palate is medium-bodied with firm tannins on the entry. licorice-tinged black fruit, again, a little chalky in texture, but there is more suppleness compared to the Clos de l'Oratoire on the finish. Promising.				
Score:91-93					

Larcis-Ducasse	RP:95-97	JS:95-96	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	\$72
Wines Advocate	Matured 40% in barrels (50% new), 45% in large-format barrels (also 50% new) and the balance in foudres, the 2025 Larcis Ducasse reveals an elegant, vibrant and gourmand bouquet of violet, dark berries, dark cherries and flowers, accented by delicate spicy notes. Medium- to full-bodied, layered and seamless, it's built around a ripe—yet not overripe—core of fruit framed by velvety tannins, concluding with a floral, harmonious and ethereal finish. This is a pure expression of Larcis Ducasse and one of the most accomplished renditions produced here to date.				
Score:95-97					
James Suckling	Well composed, balanced, seductive and vivid. Medium-bodied with fine, firm tannins. Well shaped, with an inspired and focus mid-palate. Flavorful and lingering finish.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Larcis Ducasse is another exceptional wine from one of the most under-the-radar estates in Saint-Émilion. Dark red-fleshed fruits, rose petal, lavender, mocha, licorice, sage and graphite are all seamless in the glass. The 2025 marries power with finesse to a degree that is exceptionally rare. Lively acids and lifted floral overtones brighten the long, resonant finish. The 2025 spent 23-24 days on skins, a bit shorter than most years. Élevage takes place in 40% French oak barrels, 40% 500-liter barrels and 20% 25-hectoliter foudre. Wines from clay-based soils tend to be raised in barrique to soften them, while wines from limestone-rich soils are naturally more delicate and typically aged in larger-format wood. Larcis was one of the first properties in Bordeaux to introduce large-format wood, a choice that works so well for this site and these wines. This is a stellar effort from Technical Director David Suire, who has been at the helm since 2022. Tasted three times				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Larcis Ducasse has a gorgeous bouquet already, with pure blackberry and cassis fruit, seamlessly integrated new oak, retaining focus and delineation. The palate is medium-bodied, with very fine lace-like tannins, perfectly judged acidity, bright acids towards the finish upholding tension and a silky texture that is totally disarming. Outstanding				
Score:95-97					

Clos Fourtet	RP:94-96	JS:96-97	AG:96-98	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	Unfurling in the glass with notes of dark berries, plum and kirsch mingled with hints of iris and anise, the 2025 Clos Fourtet is full-bodied, ample and layered, with a multidimensional textural profile, tangy acids and a long and penetrating finish. To moderate extraction, fermentations were kept cool, at around 24 degrees Celsius, with only punching down. It's a blend of 84% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 6% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	A deep and layered red with chocolate, berry, cherry, orange peel and some limestone aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied with lovely fruit and a tangy and vivid finish. Bright acidity comes out at the end.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clos Fourtet is elegant, polished and super refined. Bracing mineral notes cut through a core of dark red and blue-toned fruit. Spice, mocha, new leather and licorice all meld together. Seamless and profoundly elegant, the 2025 impresses with its sensual personality, soft contours and magnificent balance. Time in the glass brings out touches of blood orange and white pepper that lend explosive brilliance through to the gorgeous, sustained finish. The team opted for cool fermentations in the cellar. Most lots saw 21-26 days on skins, which is on the shorter side. Clos Fourtet has recently shifted to doing malolactic fermentation in tank instead of in barrel, which has naturally lowered the wines' oak imprint, highlighted fruit purity and softened their contours. The 2025 is positively stellar. Tasted two times. Grand Vin.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clos Fourtet was picked between September 9 and 22, the second earliest after 2003, with a yield of 28 hl/ha. It underwent a lighter extraction at a slightly lower temperature, 24°C, during natural fermentation. It has a bright nose, a mélange of red and black fruit, orange rind and touches of crushed stone emanating from the limestone. The palate is medium-bodied, with succulent ripe tannins, leaning more towards red fruit on the mid-palate. Subtle touches of graphite and white pepper emerge towards the citrus-fresh finish, with commendable length, gentle grip and satisfying sustain. This is a great Clos Fourtet that should age well in bottle.				
Score:94-96					

Pavie-Macquin		JS:97-98	AG:95-97		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Perfumed and clear, with aromas of raspberries, flowers and citrus. Medium-bodied, showing fine tannins and a tangy finish with salty undertones. A linear and complex wine with unique balance. 14.1% alcohol. 78% merlot, 20% cabernet franc and 2% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Pavie Macquin is a powerful, structured wine. In most vintages, Pavie Macquin is sensual and silky, but the 2025 is quite tannic in this tasting. Dark-fleshed fruit, chocolate, menthol, licorice, sage and lavender add to an impression of brooding density and pure power. Floral top notes lift the close. I can't wait to see how this ages. Tasted two times.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Figeac		RP:97-99	JS:96-97	AG:96-98	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Figeac shows exceptional potential, unwinding in the glass with aromas of ripe cherries and minty blackberries mingled with sweet spices, pencil lead and burning embers. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and deep, with terrific concentration, sweet tannins, bright acids and a long, penetrating finish, this integrated and balanced Figeac is a serious wine, built for the long haul. Fully 90% of production went into the grand vin this year, and it's a blend of 38% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 32% Cabernet Sauvignon.					
Score:97-99						
James Suckling	A dense yet open-grained red. It's layered, with dusty tannins that give it a velvety texture and a medium- to full-bodied palate with plum, currant and cedar flavors. Juicy. 13% alcohol. Merlot, cabernet franc and cabernet sauvignon					
Score:96-97						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Figeac is a powerful, deeply structured wine. Dark-fleshed fruit, mocha, incense, scorched earth, tobacco and grilled herbs soar across the palate in a towering Figeac of the highest level. All the elements are so well balanced. A season marked by very gradual ripening yielded an especially aromatic, perfumed Grand Vin. Yields were 25 hectolitres per hectare, harvested at a very modest 13% potential alcohol. The 2025 saw a cold maceration lasting six to eight days, with no sulfur added at crush, followed by another three weeks or so on the skins. Tasted two times					
Score:96-98						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Figeac was cropped at 25 hl/ha between 1 and September, matured entirely in new oak as usual. The Cabernet components shape the aromatics at the moment, with a mixture of blackberry and wild strawberry fruit, touches of tobacco and dark powdered chocolate, all very precise and, if anything, remarkably understated considering the warmth of that summer. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine, slightly granular tannins. Darker fruit than normal, nicely structured, linear and correct, this is a Figeac that veers towards the more elegant side in Saint-Émilion. Just a touch of bitterness on the finish neatly counterbalances the contained opulence. If it ends up at the top of my banded score, I would not be surprised. 13.1% alcohol.					
Score:						

Monbousquet		JS:92-93	AG:91-93	NM:88-90	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Dense, rich and chocolaty, with a medium body and ripe, chewy tannins. Generous and well built. Compact finish				
Score:92-93					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Monbousquet is powerful and explosive in the glass. Crème de cassis, menthol, licorice, plum, pine and spice convey tons of textural intensity and sheer power. This is Monbousquet dialed up to eleven, with copious fruit, huge, sweeping tannins and tons of sheer power				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Monbousquet was picked at 21 hl/ha between September 10 and 18, matured in 50% new oak and 50% one-year-old. It has a straightforward nose with blackberry and iodine aromas, perhaps just a little loose-knit and needing a touch more complexity. The palate is marked by some grainy, slightly dry tannins on the entry. Dark berry fruit, quite concentrated, the finish is just a little chewy and aggressive, although these were tempered when I specifically requested a re-taste in a smaller glass				
Score:88-90					

Troplong Mondot	RP:98-100	JS:97-98	AG:97-99	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	Picked between August 28 and September 25 (surely one of the broadest ranges in Bordeaux this year, but logical considering the estate's different altitudes and aspects), the 2025 Troplong Mondot is one of the wines of the vintage. Exhibiting a deep bouquet of blackberries and plums complemented by floral accents of lilac, iris and subtle spices, it's full-bodied, deep and dense, with a brooding core of fruit girdled by bright acids and sweet but abundant tannins. A blend of 85% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc, it will rival the 2022, though in vintage signature the two years are very different.				
Score:98-100					
James Suckling	A very structured wine with blackberry, hazelnut, dark chocolate, violet and some black licorice aromas. Full-bodied but in a reserved way, with super framing of the fine tannins. Elegant and structured. Fun to taste. 13.9% alcohol. 85% merlot, 13% cabernet sauvignon and 2% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Troplong Mondot is one of the most finessed wines I have ever tasted here. Dark, ample and explosive, with mind-blowing purity, the 2025 simply has it all. Hints of dried herbs, chocolate, menthol, licorice and blackberry infuse the wine with remarkable concentration and pure power. Even with all its natural richness, the 2025 is not at all heavy. A totally stunning Saint-Émilion, Troplong Mondot is very clearing one of the wines of the vintage. Harvest started on August 28 (the earliest ever) and wrapped up nearly a month later on September 25, which illustrates how diverse the terroirs are here. Aging was in 50% new oak, 40% 20HL foudre and 10% once-filled barrels. Tasted two times.				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Troplong Mondot is raised in 50% new oak, 40% foudres and 10% in one-yearold barrels. It has a very intense bouquet with black cherries, cassis and iris flower scents, and a hint of inkwell. Very well defined. The palate is medium-bodied with chalky tannins, plenty of tension and minéralité. Vivacious and yet linear and correct, it delivers plenty of fruit but in a very controlled fashion. You can feel the tongue tingling on the finish. Classy and sophisticated, this will rank as one of the finest Troplong Mondots to date.				
Score:96-98					

Beau-Séjour Bécot	RP:97-99	JS:97-98	AG:98-100	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate	he 2025 Beau-Séjour Bécot continues this estate's brilliant run of vintages with what will surely number among their finest to date. A blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc, this compelling wine opens in the glass with a pure and incipiently complex bouquet of dark berries and plums mingled with floral accents of iris and lilac. Medium- to full-bodied, deep and layered, with a concentrated core of fruit, sweet tannin and a bright spine of animating acidity, it concludes with a long, mineral finish. Beau-Séjour Bécot's limestone terroir is front and center in the glass.				
Score:97-99					
James Suckling	A medium-bodied red with a very salty and bright character and a lovely, silky texture. It's round, polished and intense. Superb finish of mineral and iron undertones. Racy and refined. A unique wine with a texture like a great Burgundy. 80% merlot and 20% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Beau-Séjour Bécot has all the requisites to take its place alongside the 2022 and the other extraordinary wines of 2025. Aromatic and layered, with striking presence, the 2025 is majestic. Deep, dark red fruit, pomegranate, mint, chalk, white pepper, rose petal and lavender soar from the glass. Bright saline notes drive through the mid-palate and into a finish marked by intense fruit and vibrant minerality. The purity here is just off the charts. Yields were 32 hectolitres per hectare. The 2025 saw a cold soak of 15 days followed by another 27 days or so on skins, on the longer side for Bordeaux. Blending is done before the wines see oak. There are good wines, exceptional wines, and then emotional wines. Beau-Séjour Bécot falls into the third category. Unforgettable. Tasted two times.				
Score:98-100					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Beau-Séjour Bécot was picked from September 5 to 12 for the Merlot and September 17 and 18 for the Cabernet Franc, which represents 20% of the blend due to new plantings that are reorientated north-south instead of east-west. Proprietor Juliette Bécot told me that yields were 32 hl/ha, mainly due to the initiation florale; they conducted a long 15-day cold maceration and used 50% new barrels, 27% foudres and the remainder in used barrel and amphora, malo done in vat. The nose takes a few minutes to open in the glass. Mineral-rich black and red fruit, mainly raspberry with some white-tipped strawberry. Like others, the limestone really comes through in this wine that could almost be described as "rocky"/ Linear and correct in the finish, again, it will gain more flesh during its barrel maturation and it will become an extremely fine and classy Saint-Emillon. 13.4% alcohol.				
Score:94-96					

Clos de Sarpe			AG:95-97	NM:93-95	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clos de Sarpe is a rich, seamless beauty. Blackberry, cloves, new leather, espresso, mocha and a kiss of blood orange infuse the palate. Plush contours and silky tannins wrap it all together in style. Clos de Sarpe remains quite heady and exotic in style, but it is also less pushed than in the past, an extremely positive development at this address				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clos de Sarpe was showing a bit of reduction on the barrel sample, though there appears to be plenty of blackberry and strawberry fruit. The palate is smooth and refined, fleshy and caressing, with no hard edges here, and it flows nicely towards the finish, so that you could almost drink this now! A superb wine from this small Saint-Émilion estate				
Score:93-95					

Croix de Labrie		JS:97-98	AG:92-94	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Blackberry, blueberry, licorice, iodine and ink aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied with a focused and beautiful center palate. Hints of salt and terra cotta. Terrific presence in the finish. From organically grown grapes. 82% merlot, 11% cabernet franc and 7% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Croix de Labrie is quite delicate. Floral and mineral notes confer notable energy right out of the gate. Crushed flowers, vibrant red-toned fruit and mid-weight structure are the signatures. This is all understatement and class.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Croix de Labrie has quite a plush and luxuriant nose, black plum, damson and violet scents blossoming in the glass, though it just needs a little more delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannins, very polished and sleek. No hard edges within a 10k radius of this Saint-Émilion. Harmonious on the finish, perhaps it just needs a tad more grip. Give it two years once in bottle.				
Score:91-93					

La Serre		RP:91-93	JS:93-94	AG:90-92	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate	Bursting with aromas of sweet blackberries, cherries, mint and rose petals, the 2025 La Serre is medium- to full-bodied, supple and lively, with a fleshy core of fruit, powdery tannins and a mineral finish.					
Score:91-93						
James Suckling	Textural and inspired, with red berry and warm spice aromas. Medium-bodied with fine tannins. Ripe but in control, with a creamy center palate and a vivid and peppery finish. Nice fruit. 73% merlot and 27% cabernet franc					
Score:93-94						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Serre is powerful and quite rustic, but also very good. A blast of dark-toned fruit, leather, spice, menthol and dried herbs adds to an impression of somber intensity. This is a decidedly burly style with incisive tannins to match. I would give it a few years post-release to soften. Tasted two times					
Score:90-92						
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Serre was picked from September 5 to 19 and matured in 50% new oak. It has a mellow nose with open arms, strawberry and raspberry fruit, well-integrated oak, a touch of oyster shell in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly grainy tannins. Modest in depth, clean, pure and well defined, it offers an enticing marine/iodine element on the finish. Long and tender, this remains an under-the-radar Saint-Émilion that consistently punches above its weight					
Score:91-93						

L'If		RP:89-91	JS:97-98	AG:97-99	NM:92-94
Wines Advocate	Aromas of cherries, rose petals and a touch of new oak introduce the 2025 L'If, a medium- to full-bodied, taut and rather compact wine built around a prominent spine of acidity (the pH is 3.28) that lends it a somewhat intellectual profile.				
Score:89-91					
James Suckling	Medium- to full-bodied and chalky but charming, with definition and clarity. 75% merlot and 25% cabernet franc. Best ever.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 L'If is a total stunner. It's like no other vintage I have tasted thus far, perhaps because of the high percentage (25%) of Cabernet Franc. Chalk, mint, white pepper, blood orange and jasmine are some of the many notes that gradually open in the glass. A saline edge shapes the brisk mid-palate and brilliant, chiselled finish. Magnificent. The best L'If to date. Tasted two times.				
Score:97-99					
Neal Martin	The 2025 L'If was picked from September 11 to 19 and matured in 50% new French oak and 50% one-year-old barrels. This vintage contains a little more Cabernet Franc (25%). A mélange of red and blueberry fruit on the nose, hints of iris flower and just a hint of blood orange. Fine definition, quite understated in style. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy tannins on the entry, citrus-fresh and the limestone element shapes the profile on the finish. Bright acids, very tensile. It will be fascinating to revisit this L'If after bottling				
Score:92-94					

Valandraud		JS:96-97	AG:96-99	NM:94-96
Wines Advocate				
Score:				
James Suckling	Lots of dark fruit with an edge, supported by chalky tannins. Compact and concentrated, with a fresh medium body. The crunchy, chalky tannins help balance the wine's exuberance. This shows an attractive combination of power, focused tannins, freshness and exuberant fruit, with hints of black mushrooms and ink. Aged for 20 months in 90% new oak and 10% foudres. 84% merlot, 9% cabernet sauvignon and 7% cabernet franc.			
Score:96-97				
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Valandraud is breathtaking. Its the first vintage made by Jean-Luc Thunevin and Marie Lefèvre together. It therefore represents a changing of the guard, now that Lefèvre and her husband, Christophe, have taken full ownership of the property after many years holding a minority stake. Vibrant and explosive in the glass, the 2025 Valandraud offers an exotic mélange of dark blue/ purplish fruit, lavender, spice and mocha. There's gorgeous precision here, much of that coming from more finesse in the tannins. The 2025 is utterly magnificent. Elevahe is 90% new oak and 10% 15HL foudres. Tasted two times.			
Score:96-99				
Neal Martin	The 2025 Valandraud was picked from September 12 to October 4 and matured in 90% new oak, the rest in wooden casks. It has an intense nose with black cherry, cassis and violet scents, more bold than the Virginie de Valandraud but perhaps slightly less delineated. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly grainy tannins, very well balanced with good depth of fruit, spicier than the Virginie towards the finish. Good grip, more than the Virginie, this will require three to five years in bottle, but it has great potential.			
Score:94-96				

Virginie de Valandraud		JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Chalky and medium- to full-bodied with dark fruit and fine definition from the tannins, which are chalky and gradually resolve toward the finish. 90% merlot, 5% cabernet franc and 5% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Virginie de Valandraud is gorgeous. Floral, silky and bright, the 2025 has so much to offer. Vibrant red-toned fruit, white pepper, mint, pomegranate and orange peel sizzle on the palate. I especially admire the wine's energy and long, saline-inflected finish				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Virginie de Valandraud, which henceforth comes entirely from the limestone plateau, was picked from September 9 to September 23 and matured in 90% new barrels. It has a well-defined bouquet with blueberry, iodine and violet scents on the nose. There is a touch more mineralite than usual. The palate is fresh and has a pleasing underlying citrus edginess under the black fruit. Gentle grip, nicely controlled towards the silky finish. Classy.				
Score:92-94					

POMEROL	WA	JS	AG	NM	PRICE
Feytit Clinet		JS:94-95	AG:94-96	NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Cohesive, with precise tannins and a pretty expression of dark fruit. Velvety and elegant with a bright finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Feytit-Clinet is a wild, exotic beauty. Succulent red/purplish fruit, exotic spice, blood orange, mint and rose petal caress the palate. A kiss of new French oak is nicely judged. Floral top notes pull it all together on the close. Stylistically, proprietor Jeremy Chasseuil has moved away from the darker, more extracted wines of the past. Tasted two times.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Feytit-Clinet has quite a bit of reduction on the nose, but it blows away to reveal enticing blackberry and bilberry fruit, hints of truffle oil and black pepper. The oak is well integrated. The palate is very well balanced, with a sense of vibrancy, almost urgency, on the entry. Silky smooth tannins, perfectly judged acidity, tender and long on the finish, this might be the best Feytit that I have tasted from barrel, perhaps the "insiders' Pomerol" of the vintage?				
Score:94-96					

Latour a Pomerol		RP:93-95	JS:95-96	AG:91-93	NM:90-92	\$86
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Latour à Pomerol is lovely, offering up aromas of cherries and sweet berry fruit complemented by hints of petals and spices. Medium- to full-bodied, polished and suave, it's deep and seamless, with ripe tannins, bright fruit flavors and a long, penetrating finish. This stands out as one of this estate's finest vintages in recent years.					
Score:93-95						
James Suckling	Medium- to full-bodied, structured, precise and focused, with dark fruit driven by acidity and well-defined tannins, yet retaining an underlying charm. 100% merlot from 8 hectares planted on gravel and clay soil, aged in 50% new oak for 12 months.					
Score:95-96						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Latour à Pomerol is a dense, heady Pomerol. Super-ripe red fruit, mocha, spice, saddle leather and dried flowers flesh out in the glass. Soft curves frame succulent fruit through the pliant mid-palate and into the resonant finish. Latour à Pomerol is not terribly complex, but it is quite delicious					
Score:91-93						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Latour à Pomerol was picked September 1 to 13 and matured in 50% new oak. It has an open nose, soft red berry fruit, a little sous-bois and truffle, though it misses a bit of the drive some of the other Pomerol wines show. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe tannins, balanced and nicely focused, though it is not the most complex Latour à Pomerol that I have encountered on the finish. A solid rather than a remarkable Pomerol for mid-term drinking.					
Score:90-92						

Le Gay		JS:94-95	AG:95-97	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A tight and polished red with delicacy and finesse I have not seen often. It's medium-bodied with freshness and brightness. Fine tannins.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Gay is classy, elegant and polished. The purity of the fruit is just remarkable. I also sense a lighter hand with regards to extraction and oak, which really helps convey more Pomerol character while still exalting fruit. This is a sublime Le Gay. Yields were a minuscule 19 hectoliters per hectare. The 2025 underwent 12 days of cold soak followed by alcoholic fermentation in barrel, using indigenous yeast developed at the château, for about 15 days. Floral overtones perfume the finish. This is sublime stuff. Tasted two times				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Gay has a well-defined bouquet with bright blackberry and cassis fruit, orange sorbet and light floral scents emerging with time. The palate is quite muscular and grippy on entry. Black fruit, a healthy dose of cracked black pepper, quite linear and strict towards the finish. It feels just slightly disjointed at the moment but it should knit together in barrel, though a second bottle showed better, exhibiting more bite and minéralité on the finish.				
Score:91-93					

Le Pin	RP:94-96	JS:99-100	AG:95-97	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	Picked in just two days, with hand sorting to eliminate any raisined berries, the 2025 Le Pin exhibits aromas of sweet cherries and raspberries along with hints of espresso roast, incense and pencil lead. Medium- to full-bodied, rich and layered, it's velvety, fleshy and enveloping, retaining its flamboyant personality but also displaying the unusual concentration of the vintage.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	The depth and intensity give incredible energy in this Le Pin at this stage. The plum, dried flower, bark and fresh mushroom character is unique and it continues on the midpalate and finish. It's endless and sophisticated with an ethereal nature. Transcendental in many ways. Can't wait to try it from bottle. Two thirds the normal production. Pure merlot. Magic.				
Score:99-100					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Pin is a wild, exotic beauty. Deeply layered spice overtones and a kiss of French oak lead into a core of vibrant dark-fleshed fruit. In this tasting, Le Pin comes across as a bit heavy and monolithic, largely because of yields that were just 20 hectoliters per hectare. I am sure those who can taste Le Pin will adore it, but personally, I prefer the greater tension and energy of its sibling, L'If, a much more contemporary wine that also costs about 1/20th the price. Expect the 2025 Le Pin to be rare (only ten barrels produced) and very pricey. The big news at Le Pin is that the estate has added a choice parcel measuring about one hectare planted with Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon that formerly belonged to L'Evangile. That will increase Le Pin's planted surface area from two to three hectares (plus another 0.7 hectares that are being redeveloped). Sadly, this is the last vintage made by Guillaume Thienpont.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Pin was picked in two passes through the vines on September 5 and 10 at just 20 hl/ha due to the small berry size, matured in two-thirds new oak and one-third one-year-old (Seguin Moreau and Taransaud). The younger vines that were stressed were not used in the blend. It takes time to unfold on the nose, with red berry fruit, black truffle and veins of graphite. The oak is very discretely used here. The palate is medium-bodied with velvety tannins, fine depth, though this is more a linear, vertical Le Pin rather than the more flamboyant 2022. A tingle of white and black pepper, a dab of licorice towards the finish that lingers temptingly. I suspect this will demand three to five years to really show its mettle.				
Score:95-97					

La Fleur Petrus	RP:94-96	JS:99-100	AG:94-96	NM:94-96	\$205
Wines Advocate	Along with Trotanoy, the 2025 La Fleur-Pétrus is one of the more powerful, massive wines in the Moueix portfolio this year. Unwinding in the glass with aromas of sweet dark fruits, black truffle and a deft touch of new oak, it's full-bodied, ample and layered, with ripe, polished tannins despite its power, good energy and a seamless, integrated profile.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Aromas of al dente fruit, blackberries and a hint of mint. Medium- to full-bodied with firm and linear tannins that are polished and caressing. Persistent finish of dark, brooding fruit. You don't really see the tannins, just the purity of fruit. Energetic and intense at the end. 97% merlot and 3% petit verdot.				
Score:99-100					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Fleur-Pétrus is one of the few wines in Pomerol that shows a certain finesse in this very hot, dry year. Rose petal, macerated cherry, blood orange and exotic spice are all beautifully knit together. Medium in body, with gorgeous mid-palate pliancy and fine balance, La Fleur-Pétrus has a lot to offer. Floral overtones reappear to brighten the finish.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Fleur-Pétrus was picked September 1 to 19 and matured in 50% new oak. This was another sample that demanded aeration to remove a bit of reduction on the nose. Enticing raspberry, wild strawberry and touches of leather unfurl on the nose, certainly on the more elegant side. The palate is well balanced, with lithe tannins, well judged acidity, very harmonious, with an almost "sleek" finish that just glides. Very seductive Pomerol in the making.				
Score:94-96					

La Violette		JS:94-95	AG:93-95	NM:91-93	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Dark and brooding, with focused tannins that are polished and integrated, balanced by a lovely expression of fruit and freshness that pulls everything into place.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Violette, 100% Merlot, is a dense, powerful wine. Blackberry, gravel, bittersweet chocolate, licorice and espresso are all dialed up. The 2025 possesses off-the-charts fruit richness and tannins to match. As usual, this vintage will not be released for many years, so there is plenty of time for it to come together. It is one of the wines on the Right Bank that are defined by miniscule yields. Saury Ecraine estimates that production will be around 1,500 bottles, about a third of the normal amount.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Violette has a pretty nose with comely Morello cherry, cassis and violetscent that deliver the plushness that is La Violette's signature. The palate is very smooth on the entry, with rounded, velvety tannins and just about sufficient countervailing acidity. There is a little headiness on the finish, where I would just like to see a little more grip. Just a little warmth here, yet still an enjoyable Pomerol for those seeking hedonism.				
Score:91-93					

Vieux Chateau Certan	RP:94-96	JS:98-99	AG:93-96	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	Bursting with aromas of violets, crème de cassis, dark berries and creamy new oak, the 2025 Vieux Château Certan is medium- to full-bodied, rich and concentrated, with a sun-kissed core of fruit, ripe acids and a dense, unctuous palate, concluding with a heady finish. A blend of 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, it is quite serious and structured, with sweet tannin, and it checks in at 14% alcohol.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Subtle and pure, with aromas of blackberries, black cherries, pencil shavings and touches of raspberries, flowers, oyster shells and iodine. Medium-bodied with subtle and integrated tannins that run the length of the wine and make you want to drink it. The length and finesse are sublime. A mineral, stone and light cement texture. It grows beautiful in the great finish. 80% merlot, 15% cabernet franc and 5% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Vieux Château Certan is not in the mood to show all its cards. Today, the 2025 shows tons of textural richness and body, but not quite the delineation or energy of the best vintages. Black-toned fruit, gravel, incense, mocha and chocolate are generous in the glass. Ripeness feels pushed to the edge, with fruit perhaps picked a bit later than ideal. But this is a barrel sample, with the wine racked just three weeks prior to my visit. I won't be surprised if this shows better from bottle, but today, this is my impression.				
Score:93-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Vieux Château Certan was picked from September 8 to 15 at 22 hl/ha and includes two adjoining parcels normally used for the La Gravette. It is raised in two-thirds new oak, the remainder one-year-old. The Merlot sculpts the bouquet with perfumed red cherries, raspberry, cassis and pressed violet scents that gain intensity in the glass. The oak is seamlessly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied, with powdery tannins on the entry. This must be one of the most peppery VCCs that I have tasted, poivre noir from the Cabernet Franc component. Quite structured, with chalky tannins on the finish, almost as if it came from more limestone soil. Not a crowd pleaser like the 2022, but an intellectual, vertical VCC that will flesh out in barrel. 14.01% alcohol.				
Score:95-97					

L'Evangile	RP:93-95	JS:97-98	AG:94-96	NM:96-98	\$168
Wines Advocate	The 2025 L'Evangile is showing well, bursting with aromas of sweet cherries, dark berries, spices and licorice, framed by nicely integrated oak. On the palate, it's medium- to full-bodied, with a rather rich, powerful profile, built around ripe but youthfully structuring tannins. It's a blend of 87% Merlot and 12% Cabernet Franc, some 40% of which is being matured in foudre. The vintage conditions, which produced very small berries (as little as 0.6 grams for Cabernet Franc growing on gravel), have delivered an Evangile of unusual density.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	The aromas of blackberries, black olives and hints of tobacco and dried fruit are fascinating and enticing. It's medium- to full-bodied with creamy and polished tannins and a savory finish. Turns refined and focused after the layered fruit. Classic in character, with a caressing texture and balance. Hints of ripe fruit and freshness at the same time. 86% merlot, 13% cabernet franc and 1% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 L'Évangile is a very beautiful wine. Silky and medium in body, the 2025 is a classic L'Évangile, which is shocking given the intense heat and drought of the year, along with yields of just 22 hectoliters per hectare in aggregate across the châteaux. Bright redtoned fruit, mocha and rose petal all grace the palate. Touches of blood orange and white pepper lift the brilliant finish. Élevage is 40% new oak, 40% foudre, 15% once-filled barrels and 5% amphora. This is a very precise wine and one of the top Pomerols of the year				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 L'Évangile has been given new impetus by winemaker Juliette Couderc. It is initially backward, but it really comes forth with a few swirls of the glass: black cherries, mint and juniper berries, just a hint of truffle, quite vibrant and vivacious. Wonderful delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with svelte tannins, a fine bead of acidity, superb minéralité, as if there were a bit of limestone soil, but there is none. Very saline on the aftertaste with impressive length. This is a marvellous L'Évangile given the growing season, and it seems imbued with so much personality.				
Score:96-98					

Hosanna	RP:94-96	JS:98-99	AG:94-96	NM:94-96	\$165
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Hosanna is showing excellent potential, wafting from the glass with notes of wild blueberries and blackberries mingled with hints of licorice and spices. Medium- to full-bodied, deep and polished, with a cool core of fruit, ripe tannins and excellent balance and integration, it's a blend of 74% Merlot and 26% Cabernet Franc.				
Score:94-96					
James Suckling	Gorgeous aromas of blackberries, black olives, coffee beans and dark chocolate follow through to a medium to full body with creamy and open-grained tannins. Juicy and savory with a flavorful finish. Balanced and vivid. Excellent potential. A blend of 74% merlot and 26% cabernet franc.				
Score:98-99					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Hosanna is a wild, exotic beauty. Crème de cassis, cloves, licorice, chocolate and espresso soar out of the glass, conveying tons of sheer richness and power. As is often the case, Hosanna is quite the extrovert. There is certainly no shortage of intensity here. Plush contours wrap around the flamboyant close.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Hosanna was picked from September 1 to 19 and matured in 50% new oak barrels. Now this is a level up over the preceding Latour à Pomerol, with more energy locked into the nose, bright blackberry and raspberry fruit, hints of tobacco and light crushed stone scents. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe, quite succulent tannins, fine acidity, juicy and caressing towards the satisfying finish. One of the more elegant Hosanna wines in recent years. Superb				
Score:94-96					

L'Eglise Clinet		JS:97-98	AG:95-97	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	The definition, freshness and complexity are very impressive already. It's like a finished wine. It's medium-bodied with precise and vivid flavors of blackberries and cool olives. Long, energetic and dense yet not heavy. Classy. A blend of 90% merlot and 10% cabernet franc.				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 L'Eglise-Clinet is totally seamless. Crème de cassis, lavender, licorice, mocha, pomegranate and jasmine caress the palate. Impossibly fine, silky tannins frame the midpalate. Time in the glass brings out the wine's textural richness and all the gravitas that is such a signature here. Gravel, dried herbs, mocha and lavender shape the huge, dramatic finish				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin	The 2025 L'Eglise-Clinet was picked on 4 and 5 September for the Merlot and the same days plus 12 September for the Cabernet Franc; this vintage matured in 75% new oak. The aromatics are timid at first, but unfurl in the glass, revealing enticing scents of raspberry, wild strawberry, truffle oil and cedar. The oak is beautifully integrated, and it gains delineation with each swirl. The palate is medium-bodied, with fine tannins, one of the most mineral-driven L'Eglise-Clinet wines that I have tasted from barrel, gaining cohesion and poise, with perfectly judged acidity and a gentle but insistent grip on the finish. There is a verticality to this Pomerol that gives it a more cerebral slant compared to the 2022, but it is still quite delicious. That said, I would still give it a few years in bottle.				
Score:96-98					

La Petit Eglise		JS:94-95	AG:91-93	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	A salty red with fresh acidity and vivid, very polished bright fruit. It's medium-bodied with a lovely center palate and a defined finish. Very typical and classy. A blend of 90% merlot and 10% cabernet franc.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Petite Eglise is a very pretty, open-knit second wine. It offers fine persistence and balance. I find it just a touch light texturally, perhaps because this vintage includes a bit of fruit from relatively young vines. The 2025 might not quite have the depth or complexity of the very best years, but it comes close. Best of all, it will drink beautifully on release.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Petite Eglise was picked 1-4 September and 12 September for the Merlot and Cabernet Franc respectively. It has a clean and pure bouquet with blackberry, briary and light red berry fruit. The palate has very malleable tannins, caressing and harmonious, with black pepper and bay leaf towards the finish and a sense of completeness. The aromatics just need to click into fifth gear, which they undoubtedly will by the time of bottling.				
Score:90-92					

Clinet	RP:93-95	JS:94-95	AG:94-96	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate	Less marked by oak than in recent vintages, the 2025 Clinet reveals a refined bouquet of cedar, dark berries, spice and fresh licorice. Medium- to full-bodied, dense and layered, it's broad-shouldered yet more tensile than usual, built around a structured core of fruit and concluding with a long, perfumed finish. Reflecting the vintage in its balance between density and approachability, it remains true to the estate's style, with a firm, robust frame. It will benefit from some years in bottle to fully harmonize. This is a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon.				
Score:93-95					
James Suckling	A composed, well-structured and precise Pomerol showcasing red berries and baking spices on the nose. Full-bodied with plush tannins and fresh acidity. There is energy at the center despite the solid frame of tannins shaping the midpalate. Focused and driven finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clinet is a dark, brooding wine, largely because of the significant presence of Cabernet Sauvignon—a rarity in Pomerol, but a tradition here dating back to vines that were planted in the 1930s and 1950s. Plum, blackberry, gravel, incense, licorice and scorched earth stain the palate. Harvest started on September 4, the earliest ever. Yields were 34 hectoliters per hectare. Lots saw about 30 days on the skins, on the longer side for the château. Malolactic fermentation was done in barrel. Élevage is 60% new oak and 40% once-filled new oak				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clinet was the earliest picking ever, from September 4, and aged in 60% new oak plus 40% one-year-old barrels. Vintages now have a little more Cabernet Sauvignon, as a hectare of Merlot was uprooted. Now this has a delightful nose, perhaps the most elegant and refined that I have encountered at this stage: vivid red cherry, raspberry and wild strawberry scents, neatly embroidered oak, more floral in style. The palate is medium-bodied with chiselled, fine tannins, bright and tensile, exquisite focus, with a peacock's tail on the finish. Quite crystalline on the finish, this is a Clinet that I would like in my cellar. Or at the dinner table. Or in my glass.				
Score:96-98					

Clos l'Eglise			AG:92-94	NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Clos L'Eglise is a potent, brooding Pomerol. Broad swaths of tannin enshroud a core of intense dark fruit, leather, chocolate, licorice and espresso. Yields were just 19 hectoliters per hectare. That concentration of fruit and tannin lends the 2025 tremendous textural intensity, but also makes the tannins a bit tough. Élevage will be essential here.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Clos l'Église was picked 8 to 19 September at around 19 hl/ha, aged in vat and in barrels. This is intense on the nose with black berries, touches of licorice and cassis, cohering nicely in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with slightly chalky tannins on the entry that lend tension. Very good weight and density in this Pomerol, structured with gentle grip, fine minéralité towards the finish that lingers in the mouth. This will require four or five years in bottle, but there is a lot of potential here.				
Score:92-94					

Gazin	RP:91-93	JS:96-97	AG:94-96	NM:90-92	\$76
Wines Advocate	A blend of 87% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc, the 2025 Gazin unfurls in the glass with notes of plums, dark berries and violets. Medium- to full-bodied, rich and layered, with a dense core of fruit framed by plenty of sweet, powdery tannin, it concludes with a long, youthfully structured finish				
Score:91-93					
James Suckling	A juicy and fine tannin texture with currant, raspberry and bark aromas and flavors. It's medium-bodied and well structured with a caressing finish, all in balance. Very fine and attractive.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Gazin is a fabulous wine. It's deep, rich and powerful but also wonderfully layered in the glass, with real finesse and tons of nuance. Dark red-toned fruit, lavender, mocha, spice and licorice open beautifully. The 2025 impresses with its captivating energy, finely sketched details and sublime balance. Magnificent. Tasted two times				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Gazin was picked between August 28 and September 10 and aged in 40% new oak. It has a perfumed nose, well defined, with touches of oyster shell emerging with time and combining with the black fruit, remaining quite classical and old school in style. The palate is medium-bodied with ample weight. Rounded and pliant tannins, hints of truffle towards the finish, which just needs a little more grip. This will be one of the more approachable vintages from this Pomerol stalwart.				
Score:90-92					

La Conseillante	RP:97-100	JS:97-98	AG:96-98	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 La Conseillante is another brilliant wine in the making for this Pomerol reference point. Wafting from the glass with aromas of ripe mulberries and blackberries mingled with hints of violets and truffle, it's medium- to full-bodied, deep and unctuous, with lively acids, ultra-refined tannins and a long, floral finish. It's a blend of 87% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon (from new plantings that already make it into the blend) that attained 13.5% alcohol. Fermentations were capped at 26 degrees Celsius, the coolest ever, to extract selectively, and the entire production is maturing in barriques this year.				
Score:97-100					
James Suckling	Complex already, with blackberry, blueberry, currant and mint aromas that follow through to a medium body with firm tannins and a savory, juicy finish with fresh herbs and an almost rose stem undertone. You can feel the grape skins. Very primary. 87% merlot, 10 cabernet franc and 3% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:97-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 La Conseillante is shaping up to be magnificent. Rich and luscious in the glass, the 2025 offers up an exotic mélange of inky dark fruit, cloves, new leather, licorice and mocha. This is the first vintage that sees the return of Cabernet Sauvignon, historically a part of the blend from at least 1871 to 1956, when frost devastated many vineyards in Pomerol. The 2025 is impressively deep, but also quite vibrant. I can't wait to see how it ages. It's a superb effort from Technical Director Marielle Cazaux and her team. Cazaux made an immediate impact when she arrived in 2015, starting with a move to lower-intervention farming that was immediately apparent. I will have more to say about that and other related subjects in a separate article we will publish later in the year. Tasted two times.				
Score:96-98					
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Conseillante was cropped at 30 hl/ha and is matured in 70% new oak barrels, there are no amphoras this year as Marielle Cazaux felt the wine needed the micro-oxygenation. It has a very pure nose with black cherries, blueberry and wild strawberry fruit, just a little Burgundy-like in style. A hint of orange rind loiters in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with filigree tannins a sliver thread of acidity, quite linear and strict on the entry, gentle grip with a dash of black pepper towards the finish. A second glass that happened to have been opened for an hour revealed some of its opulence that will surely be enhanced during the élevage. It will deserve four to five years in bottle but will have a long life ahead and will give a lot of pleasure.				
Score:95-97					

Lafleur Gazin	RP:92-94	JS:94-95	AG:91-93	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate	The 2025 Lafleur-Gazin shows promise, wafting from the glass with notes of minty cherries, cassis and licorice, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, polished and charming palate that's fleshy, seamless and already nicely integrated.				
Score:92-94					
James Suckling	A driven, focused and long 100% merlot showing red berries, red cherries and some warm spices on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied with fine tannins. Refined, velvety and caressing texture despite the mid-palate energy and drive. Flavorful, lingering finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lafleur-Gazin is a rich, heady Pomerol. Dark-fleshed fruit, mocha, leather, licorice and cloves convey plenty of darkness. There's plenty of breadth in the glass. I imagine the 2025 will drink well with minimal cellaring. The style is decidedly forward, almost lush.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lafleur-Gazin was picked 1 to 13 September and aged in 50% new oak. It has a pretty nose with brambly red fruit, though not complex. Nice definition. The palate is medium-bodied with light tannins, dark berry fruit laced with light mocha notes, not powerful, but there is fluidity on the finish. One of the earlier-drinking Pomerol wines				
Score:90-92					

La Fleur De Gay		JS:95-96			
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Fruity, supple, velvety and refined, with a medium body and velvety tannins and texture. Balanced, very elegant and in control. Flavorful, lingering finish.				
Score:95-96					
Antonio Galloni					
Score:					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Nenin		RP:91-93	JS:94-95	AG:90-93	NM:90-92	\$74
Wines Advocate	he 2025 Nenin has turned out nicely, offering up notes of cassis, dark berries and mint, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, dense and layered palate that's muscular and structured, with plenty of sweet tannin. The team hedged the canopies lower than usual this year to reduce evapotranspiration and used densimetric sorting to remove overripe berries. It's a blend of 42% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Franc and 6% Cabernet Sauvignon.					
Score:91-93						
James Suckling	A solid red with lots of berry and milk chocolate character and chewy tannins, but it's still in balance, with a caressing texture and a flavorful finish. Some terracotta at the end. Bright and focused 52% merlot, 32% cabernet franc 6% cabernet sauvignon,.					
Score:94-95						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Nenin is packed with dark blue/purplish fruit, lavender, mocha, cloves, new leather, and incense. Rich and voluptuous in the glass, the 2025 is all charm. This is a pretty extroverted vintage for Nenin, but all the elements are nicely balanced. Soft contours frame the long, juicy finish.					
Score:90-93						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Nenin was picked early from September 2, the fruit sorted via a density sorting machine, yields at 21 hl/ha and matured in 40% new oak. It has quite a potent nose for a Deuxième Vin, with black plum, hints of star anise and white pepper. This has much more delineation than the Fugue. The palate is medium-bodied with quite succulent ripe blackberry, strawberry and citrus notes, a little chewy on the mid-palate, modest length, although not the most complex Nénin that I have tasted on the finish. But a decent, solid Pomerol nonetheless.					
Score:90-92						

Le Bon Pasteur			JS:94-95	AG:93-95	NM:90-92	
Wines Advocate						
Score:						
James Suckling	Perfumed already, with a velvety and chewy palate of dark berries and dark chocolate and a medium-bodied finish. Muscular for the vintage in Pomerol.					
Score:94-95						
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Le Bon Pasteur is fabulous. In fact, the 2025 is one of the best editions of this wine I have tasted. Ample and rich, but not at all heavy, Le Bon Pasteur impresses with its total sense of harmony. A burst of red/purplish fruit, lavender, spice, mocha and blood orange are all fused together. The purity of the fruit is remarkable. The 2025 is an especially fine Bon Pasteur. Tasted two times.					
Score:93-95						
Neal Martin	The 2025 Le Bon Pasteur has a charming nose with pure, quite floral black cherry and blueberry fruit, perhaps more understated than I was expecting. The palate is quite tannic on the entry, with a keen line of acidity, structured and quite peppery towards the finish, which coats the mouth. Just a bit austere at the moment, hopefully this will flesh out during barrel maturation, though it needs to find its fifth gear.					
Score:90-92						

Petit Village		JS:96-97	AG:91-94	NM:92-94	\$126
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Extremely floral, with aromas of dried honeysuckle, white roses, black currants, raspberries and orange peel. Medium-bodied with tight and focused tannins that are very compact and polished and a persistent finish. Just a touch of salt in the undertone. The cabernet really makes this direct and long. A blend of 60% merlot, 32% cabernet franc and 8% cabernet sauvignon.				
Score:96-97					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Petit-Village is hugely promising. The two Cabernets are especially prominent in this year's blend. Strong savory overtones, graphite, new leather, licorice, dried herbs and chocolate convey serious intensity. There's plenty of the 2025 vintage's concentration, but also enough fruit to balance things out. I am looking forward to seeing how this develops with élevage.				
Score:91-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Petit-Village comes from the widest part of the "triangle" of vineyards and is matured in 45% new oak for 16 months, including 20% in demi-muids. It is a little reticent at first, opening with a mixture of blackberry and raspberry fruit, hints of pencil-box and light orange-rind scents. It takes a few swirls of the glass to get going, but it is nicely defined. The palate is well balanced, with pliant and supple tannins, fine acidity, quite linear in style and maybe just missing the precision of the very top Pomerols on the finish. But I appreciate this style of Petit-Village—less rustic and more precise than vintages a decade ago, perhaps starting to fully articulate its terroir. One to watch.				
Score:92-94					

De Sales	RP:90-92	JS:92-93	AG:91-93	NM:89-91	
Wines Advocate	Marie-Laure Latorre (whose distinguished career at Château Jean Faure readers will remember) took the reins at this property shortly before the beginning of the vintage, so there are certainly exciting things in store at this address. In the meantime, the 2025 De Sales is a creditable effort, offering up aromas of dark berries, plums and vine smoke, followed by a medium- to full-bodied, dense and rather structured palate framed by powdery tannins. It's a blend of 68% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc and 13% Cabernet Sauvignon—an emphasis on Cabernet rare for this sector of Pomerol.				
Score:90-92					
James Suckling	A well-made red, focused and textured with aromas of red cherries and some currants. Medium-bodied with fine, firm tannins and fresh acidity. Vivid with a savory finish and excellent length.				
Score:92-93					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 de Sales is the best wine I have tasted here in many, many years. Rich and ample in this vintage, the 2025 is a pretty big wine for this site. Dark red/purplish fruit, grilled herbs, sage, rose petal and menthol are some of the many notes that build in the glass. De Sales is the largest estate in Pomerol. The trick here is focusing on the best parcels for the Grand Vin. The new team, headed by General Manager Marie-Laure Latorre (formerly at Jean Faure) and consulting winemaker Thomas Duclos, turned out a beautiful wine in their first year of collaboration. I have visited De Sales many times over the last several years, but this is the first time I feel the Grand Vin is at a level that merits inclusion in this report. Tasted two times.				
Score:91-93					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Château de Sales has a straightforward red berry and brown spice-tinged bouquet, open-knit and nicely focused. The palate is simple but balanced, with gentle grip, grainy tannins and an off-dry finish. Less rustic than in the past, it should drink well for a decade or so				
Score:					

SAUTERNES / BARSAC	WA	JS	V	WS	PRICE
Coutet		JS:94-95	AG:94-96	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	This is round and concentrated, with incisive acidity providing balance. Full-bodied and attractive in its power, with just enough freshness to hold it together.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Coutet is redolent of burnt sugar, crème brûlée, spice, passion fruit and candied ginger. Always quite rich texturally, Coutet blossoms beautifully on the palate with plenty of textural presence and body. It's a gorgeous wine by any measure. Tasted two times.				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Coutet is a little more backward on the nose than usual, less giving. But there is wonderful purity of fruit, lemon thyme and clementine scents, touches of white flower. The palate is medium-bodied with a viscous entry, playing with Coutet's trademark thread of acidity that emanates from the limestone soils. Quite minerally and spicy on the aftertaste, this is a marvellous Barsac from the Baly family.				
Score:95-97					

L'Extravagant Doisy Daene (375ml)			AG:95-97		
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling					
Score:					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Doisy-Daëne L'Extravagant is fabulous. It offers an exotic mix of tangerine confit, candied ginger, marzipan, passion fruit and a kiss of new French oak. Airy and light on its feet, with superb depth, the 2025 shows exceptionally well.				
Score:95-97					
Neal Martin					
Score:					

Doisy Daene		JS:93-94	AG:92-94	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Dense and creamy, with honey and spice aromas. Medium-bodied with a delicious pastry and spice character balancing the sweetness. Elegant and flavorful.				
Score:93-94					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Doisy-Daëne is aromatic, lifted and sculpted. Green apple, pear, jasmine and crushed rocks are finely delineated in an airy Barsac that has so much to offer. The 2025 can be enjoyed young for its freshness, but it clearly has the energy and pedigree to age into an exceptional sweet wine over time.				
Score:92-94					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Doisy-Daëne has an intense nose with plenty of botrytised fruit, wonderful delineation, quite nuanced this year, with quince and light white peach scents intertwined with saffron. The palate is well balanced with a keen line of acidity, so pure and quite minerally, yet your senses are just awash with that layered botrytised fruit that lingers in the mouth. What a stunning Barsac				
Score:95-97					

Guiraud		JS:94-95	AG:93-95	NM:95-97	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	Elegant and balanced, with quince, pastry and spice aromas. Medium-bodied with a silky texture. Refined and charming, with controlled sweetness and a succulent spice note bringing vitality toward the finish.				
Score:94-95					
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Guiraud balances power and energy like very few Sauternes can. Orange confit, passion fruit, crystallized ginger and exotic white flowers fill out the layers. Silky contours are a sign of total finesse. Impeccable. Guiraud is one of the most elegant Sauternes readers will come across.				
Score:93-95					
Neal Martin	The 2025 Guiraud is well defined on the nose, with plenty of botrytised fruit, hints of saffron and apricot blossom, quite nuanced compared with some of its peers. The palate is well balanced, with a tangy, mellifluous entry. Bright acidity counters the richness of this Guiraud, a touch of spice towards the lingering and powerful finish that fans out with style. This is a great Guiraud from winemaker Sandrine Garbay.				
Score:95-97					

Suduiraut		JS:97-98	AG:94-96	NM:96-98	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	<p>The purity in this Suduiraut is exceptional and made from 100% semillon with dried pineapples, apricots, hazelnuts and spices. Medium-bodied, with plenty of sweetness yet fresh and phenolic texture that frames the wine. pH 3.65, 158 g/L residual sugar. Fantastic.</p>				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni	<p>The 2025 Suduiraut is 100% Sémillon picked six weeks later than the dry whites in the three tries, with most of the final blend coming from the last two picks. Tangerine oil, mint, white pepper and passion fruit are some of the notes that grace the palate. The 2025 is aromatic and light on its feet, but it also shows the natural depth and concentration of a vintage with yields of 13 hectoliters per hectare. Residual sugar is 158 grams per liter.</p>				
Score:94-96					
Neal Martin	<p>The 2025 Suduiraut is pure Sémillon, picked mostly after October 10 (there was a first picking of more passerillé fruit that constituted around 10% of the blend). It is mainly from the second trie, with a last picking at the end of October. There were a total of 10 days of picking. This has a fragrant bouquet with wild honey, linseed, saffron and light orange pith scents that blossom in the glass, though I would not describe it as intense, but very pure. The palate is well balanced, with a viscous opening, very pure botrytised fruit and a killer line of acidity. There is no heaviness here, and despite the 158 g/L residual sugar, it feels light on its toes. Oh yes.</p>				
Score:96-98					

Rieussec		JS:97-98		NM:92-94	
Wines Advocate					
Score:					
James Suckling	<p>A rich and concentrated Rieussec with sliced mangos, apricots and light caramel. It's full-bodied and layered with lots of sweetness and a long and flavorful finish. Lots of pretty botrytis at the finish. Pure</p>				
Score:97-98					
Antonio Galloni					
Score:					
Neal Martin	<p>The 2025 Rieussec has around 150 g/l residual sugar this year and was picked from around mid-September, with either three or four tries depending on the parcel. It is no longer matured entirely in new barrels, so this vintage includes 70-80% new oak, with some larger 500-litre barrels. It has a very pure bouquet, with saffron, wild honey and light apricot scents, and is very focused and delineated. The palate is very fresh on the entry, which counterbalances the pure botrytised fruit. Just a hint of toffee apple in the background, long and tender on the finish. Excellent.</p>				
Score:92-94					

Raymond Lafon						NM:94-96	
Wines Advocate							
Score:							
James Suckling							
Score:							
Antonio Galloni							
Score:							
Neal Martin	<p>The 2025 Raymond-Lafon has a clean and pure bouquet with dried honey, saffron and light white flower scents, very well defined and poised. The palate is well balanced, with a keen line of acidity that cuts through the live wire honeyed fruit, with hints of Clementine and apricot towards the tender finish. This is a great Raymond-Lafon.</p>						
Score:94-96							

Carmes De Rieussec							
Wines Advocate							
Score:							
James Suckling							
Score:							
Antonio Galloni							
Score:							
Neal Martin							
Score:							

La Tour Blanche		JS:92-93	NM:93-95
Wines Advocate			
Score:			
James Suckling	Full-bodied, with restrained sweetness that's not excessive in any way, acidity that complements and drives the wine and a subtle saline touch.		
Score:92-93			
Antonio Galloni			
Score:			
Neal Martin	The 2025 La Tour Blanche has a more primal bouquet, tightly wound at first, then opening with beeswax and light apricot scents. The palate is wonderful, with plenty of vivacious botrytised fruit, energy and tension. It is weighty as usual with this Sauternes, but there is a countervailing sense of energy through to the finish. Excellent.		
Score:93-95			

Lafaurie Peyraguey		JS:97-98	AG:94-96	NM:96-98
Wines Advocate				
Score:				
James Suckling	Intense aromas of spices, saffron and orange peel. Medium-bodied with extract and phenolics that give it incredible length and structure. 175 g/L residual sugar. Botrytis is pure and clear.			
Score:97-98				
Antonio Galloni	The 2025 Lafaurie-Peyraguey is airy and gracious right out of the gate. Orange confit, candied ginger, passion fruit and tangerine oil are some of the notes that grace this understated, silky Sauternes endowed with regal finesse and class.			
Score:94-96				
Neal Martin	The 2025 Lafaurie-Peyraguey is the only cuvée this year, there is no second wine. This was cropped at 12 hl/ha between September 16 and October 9 via three tries, one just to clean the vineyard, and comprises 100% Sémillon with 175 g/l of residual sugar. It has a very nuanced bouquet that opens nicely with aeration, dried peach, pear and light waxy scents, a touch of saffron in the background. The palate is beautiful, very well balanced with pure botrytised fruit, a little almond and chamomile towards the finish with very well integrated oak. This is a really classy Sauternes that has a long future ahead.			
Score:96-98				

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- * Prices are Ex-Bordeaux
- * Payment is immediate upon confirmation of orders by cheque or bank transfer.
- * Prices quoted above are valid for one week only from date of Proforma Invoice.
- * Prices are subject to change without prior notice if payment is not received within one week from date of Proforma Invoice and we reserve the right to cancel unpaid orders.
- * Additional charges apply where shipment arrangement into Singapore is applicable, approximate charges about S\$20.00 (freight & duties) per 750ml bottle is payable upon arrival 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 arrival of wines.
- * Above wines in 750ml per bottles unless otherwise stated
- * Delivery in June-July 2028 Minimum order of 6 bottles per label.
- * Orders are subject to reconfirmation.