

Margaux & Mouton EP is Released



The Bordeaux En Primeur 2017 is now in full swing! 7 Big-Ticket wines from left bank and 2 Big-Ticket wine from right bank are just released – **Ch. Mouton Rothschild, Ch. Margaux, Ch. Leoville Las Cases, Ch. Montrose, Ch. Leoville Barton, Ch. Leoville Poyferre, Ch. Pontet Canet, Ch. Angelus and Ch. Pavie.**

Here comes our running list of [New Releases](#) and the [particular highlights](#).

2017 New Releases

En Primeur 2017	AOC	WA	Vinous	JS	WS	Euro	HKD (REF) @9.29
Aile D'Argent	Bordeaux Blanc	-	90-92	95-96	90-93	€ 58.5	HK\$544
Angelus	St Emilion Grand Cru	94-96	94-96	95-96	93-96	€ 300	HK\$2787
Aromes de Pavie	St Emilion	91-93	89-92	92-93	89-92	€ 78	HK\$725
Dame de Montrose	St Estephe	89-91	88-90	91-92	-	€ 28.5	HK\$265
Figeac	St Emilion	94-96	94-97	95-96	92-95	€ 130	HK\$1,208
Haut Bailly	Pessac Leognan	94-96	93-96	94-95	-	€ 78	HK\$725

La Conseillante	Pomerol	95-97	94-97	94-95	-	€ 130	HK\$1,208
Leoville Barton	St Julien	91-93	93-96	94-95	93-96	€ 57	HK\$530
Leoville Las Cases	St Julien	96-98	94-97	96-97	93-96	€ 156	HK\$1,450
Leoville Poyferre	St Julien	93-95	92-95	95-96	92-95	€ 58.5	HK\$544
Margaux	Margaux	96-98	94-97	97-98	-	€ 380	HK\$3,530
Montrose	St Estephe	96-99	94-96	96-97	91-94	€ 104	HK\$967
Mouton	Pauillac	97-99	94-96	97-98	-	€ 380	HK\$3,530
Parde de Haut-Bailly	Pessac Leognan	89-91	89-92	90-91	-	€ 21.5	HK\$200
Pavie	St Emilion	97-99	94-97	95-96	92-95	€ 298	HK\$2,769
Petit Lion	St Julien	-	89-92	92-93	-	€ 39	HK\$363
Pontet Canet	Pauillac	96-98	92-95	96-97	90-93	€ 86.5	HK\$804

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Margaux 2017 (Margaux)

EUR 380 (~HK\$3,530) / bt1

James Suckling 97-98:

"This is a very dense Margaux, and especially for the vintage, with a full body, grainy tannins and a long and rich finish. Impressive depth of fruit and structure. Luscious and muscular at the same time."

Wine Advocate 96-98:

"A blend of 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2017 Château Margaux charges from the gate with opulent kirsch, raspberry preserves, wild blueberries and cassis notions accented by roses, violets, Chinese five spice and fragrant earth with touches of underbrush and truffles. Medium-bodied, it fills the mouth with vibrant, ripe red and blue fruits, layering in perfume and spice nuances. It's framed by very finely grained and plush yet firm tannins and great tension, finishing with epic length." - Lisa Perrotti-Brown

Vinous 94-97:

"The 2017 Margaux is one of the highlights on the Left Bank. Surprisingly powerful and virile, the Grand Vin clearly reflects the influence of a high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend. Beams of tannin give the wine support through the mid-palate and into the finish. Estate Manager Sebastian Vergne told me the winemaking team opted to raise temperatures at the end of fermentation to gain a bit more color, depth and polymerization of tannins. The Grand Vin represents 37% of the estate's production." - Antonio Galloni

Mouton Rothschild 2017 (Pauillac)

EUR 380 (~HK\$3,530) / bt1

Wine Advocate 97-99:

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

James Suckling 97-98:

"This is a very shy and tight Mouton with blackberries, blackcurrants and hints of terracotta. Full body and very integrated tannins that are extremely polished and beautiful. Spicy and white-pepper finish. Sexy and exciting. So long and refined."

Vinous 94-96:

"The 2017 Mouton-Rothschild was picked from 7 to 29 September and matured in 100% new oak. This First Growth is driven by the Cabernet Sauvignon, as you would expect given the high percentage, expressive pencil lead and cedar that infuse the slightly introspective black fruit. Dare I say that it actually reminds me of Latour in style? The palate is medium-bodied, finely tuned and precise, a more masculine Mouton-Rothschild compared to the last three vintages, fresh with a sustained, lightly spiced finish that lingers in the mouth. That backbone is accentuated more during my second visit in mid-April. It is a cliché but this Mouton-Rothschild is unashamedly "classic" in style, perchance "le petit frère" of the 2010 Mouton-Rothschild that also contained a lot of Cabernet Sauvignon (though before you search the archives, yes, the 2011 and 2012 contained the same proportion!) Tasted twice with consistent notes." - Neal Martin

Pavie 2017 (St Emilion)

EUR 298 (~HK\$2,769) / bt1

Wine Advocate 97-99:

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

James Suckling 95-96:

"This is very compacted and tight with firm and silky tannins. A focused and intense center palate with excellent dark fruit and a long finish. Tightly wound."

Vinous 94-97:

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

Leoville Las Cases 2017 (St Julien)

EUR 156 (~HK\$1,450) / bt1

Wine Advocate 96-98:

"The 2017 Leoville Las Cases, a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon with 11% Cabernet Franc and 10% Merlot from 50- to 90-year-old vines, is deep garnet-purple in color and simply sings of crushed blackcurrants, wild blueberries and plum preserves with notions of wood smoke, cigar boxes, crushed rocks and beef drippings. Medium-bodied with wonderful intensity and vivacity, it gives a firm, fine-grained frame and a densely packed mid-palate, finishing long and earthy. This should age incredibly!"

James Suckling 96-97:

"This is very muscular with formed and bright tannins that give the wine super drive and length. The tannins build on the finish with a lovely integration of black fruits. Serious for the vintage."

Vinous 94-97:

"The 2017 Leoville Las Cases is remarkably elegant and polished for this typically brutish Saint-Julien. Persistence more than power is the key element that distinguishes the 2017 from most other vintages and most other Saint-Julien as well. The classic Las Cases flavor profile is very much in evidence, but in a wine that is silky, nuanced and exceptionally polished. In 2017, Las Cases is truly magical, and one of the most complete wines of the Left Bank. In a word: sublime. Don't miss it. Tasted two times." - Antonio Galloni

Montrose 2017 (St Estephe)

EUR 104 (~HK\$967) / btl

Wine Advocate 96-99:

"The 2017 Montrose is a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot. Deep purple-black in color, the nose is a little closed at first, but with coaxing, it opens to reveal remarkable earth and exotic spice notes of crushed rocks, black truffles, star anise, cassia and fenugreek over a core of crème de cassis, blackberry preserves, violets and blueberry pie with touches of cigar box, charcuterie and black soil. Medium-bodied with a rock-solid frame and an exquisitely ripe, very fine-grained texture, it has wonderful freshness with electric energy and a very long, mineral finish. Possessing great poise and intensity, this is one of the greatest Montrose's I have tasted!"

James Suckling 96-97:

"This is pure and tight with gorgeous cabernet sauvignon character of blackcurrants, blueberries and crushed stones. Full-bodied, yet compacted and polished. It shows a long and beautiful tannin texture at the end. Just rolls off the palate."

Vinous 94-96:

"The 2017 Montrose represents 37% of the total production this year and it was cropped at around 45hl/ha. It has a little more volume and intensity compared to the Cos d'Estournel that was tasted immediately prior to my visit. Blackberry, raspberry, cedar and pressed flowers bloom in the glass, though there is a noticeable change with aeration after 20 minutes – hints of juniper and bay leaf, rendering a more nuanced and complex array of aromatics. The palate is medium-bodied with edgy tannin and it feels a little chalky in the mouth, yet also tensile and certainly extremely focused. There is already a palpable sense of energy in situ, well structured and vivid, though not as complex or as nuanced as the 2016 Montrose on the finish since the growing season forbade that. I appreciate the pastille-like purity on the aftertaste and the potent tang of cracked black pepper and graphite that hang around for 45 seconds after the wine has departed. It is a fine, very classic Montrose and I suspect more approachable than those of yesteryear. Tasted twice at the château." - Neal Martin

Pontet Canet 2017 (Pauillac)

EUR 86.5 (~HK\$804) / btl

Wine Advocate 96-98:

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

James Suckling 96-97:

"This is incredibly transparent and refined with blackcurrant, blueberry and mineral character. Full-bodied, layered and ethereal. Tannins have a crushed-stone character. Long and persistent."

Vinous 92-95:

"The 2017 Pontet-Canet showed progressively better on each of the three occasions I tasted it. Deep, pliant and beautifully layered in the glass, the 2017 exudes class. Dark red cherry, plum, pomegranate, licorice and rose petal infuse this super-expressive and highly nuanced wine from

proprietor Alfred Tesseron and technical director Jean-Michel Comme. Harvest ran from September 18 through October 4. The blend is 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot and is aging in 50% new oak, 35% amphora and 15% one year old oak. Tasted three times." - Antonio Galloni

Leoville Poyferre 2017 (St Julien)

EUR 58.5 (~HK\$544) / btl

James Suckling 95-96:

"Very tight and energetic finish to this young, new red with currant and blackberry character. Hints of crushed stones. Dense and four-square with a chewy tannin structure and a long finish. Very muscular. Serious encore to the 2016. Same level?"

Wine Advocate 93-95:

"Yields in 2017 were 44.34 hectoliters per hectare. The 2017 Leoville Poyferre is very deep purple-black in color with super intense notes of freshly crushed blackcurrants, wild blueberries and Sichuan pepper with hints of lavender, baking spices and wood smoke. The palate is medium-bodied, firm and grainy with restrained, understated fruit and a long, mineral-laced finish."

Vinous 92-95:

"The 2017 Leoville-Poyferre boasts serious depth and concentration within the context of the year. Bright and floral, with beautifully layered fruit, the 2017 is at once gracious and powerful. Raspberry jam, chocolate, new leather and spice all flesh out in this decidedly exuberant, fleshy Saint-Julien. Many 2017s are quite open, but Leoville-Poyferre is quite reticent. Some of that may be attributable to high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon in a blend composed of 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Because of the late season rains, only 3 out of the 5 parcels that typically inform the Grand Vin were used. Tasted two times." - Antonio Galloni

Leoville Barton 2017 (St Julien)

EUR 57 (~HK\$530) / btl

Vinous 93-96:

"One of the few truly exceptional Left Bank wines of the vintage, the 2017 Leoville-Barton is simply fabulous. The 2017 also has the distinction of having a very high percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon. Inky crème de cassis, white flowers, lavender, crushed rocks, menthol and spice give the 2017 a distinctly layered, resonant feel. The 2017 offers fabulous density and structure, although the tannins need time. The blend is 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Merlot. The September rains were especially challenging for the Merlot and Cabernet Franc. As a result, Cabernet is pushed up in the blend, while there is no Franc at all. Tasted two times." - Antonio Galloni

Wine Spectator 93-96:

"This manages to pack in some serious plum, blackberry and black currant compote flavors, along with layers of melted black licorice and tar on the finish. This has a density that sets it apart from the pack in the vintage, with a lovely roasted apple wood note on the finish."

James Suckling 94-95:

"This is a really excellent Leoville-Barton with wonderful cabernet sauvignon character of blackberries, blackcurrants and flowers. Full body, firm and lightly chewy tannins and a long and beautiful finish. This has tension and brightness."

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