France 2009: the perfect crop

Three years on we return to this glorious sun-kissed vintage that produced such wonderful wines right across France.

Includes outstanding Claret, Rhône and red & white Burgundy now ready to drink.

Prices from £6.75 per bottle with six mixed cases from £95 per dozen.

thewinesociety.com/2009vintage
The perfect crop of ripe, healthy grapes

The 2009 vintage in France has had an impact every bit as dramatic as 1990 or 1961. Weather conditions helped to create the perfect crop, and there is nothing like perfectly healthy grapes to make great wine.

The grandest names of course attracted record prices but in many ways the greatness of 2009 is actually better illustrated in some of the lesser-known wines of the classic areas (the Côtes de Bordeaux, for example) and in the less exalted regions of France, such as the Loire or the South West. There is some great value to be found in these regions in 2009 and we provide our pick of the best buys in this outstanding year. We also feature six pre-mixed cases to provide the perfect overview of the harvest.

UK delivery is free of charge for orders of at least £75 or 12 bottles and pre-mixed cases, and, for orders placed before 2nd September, free 'name-the-day delivery' is also available for most UK addresses (usual price £3).

KEY

See page 144 of the July to September List for full details on alcohol levels

0 Bone dry, to 5 Intensely sweet

THE REDS

Claret, and all things cabernet and merlot

A famous and outstanding Bordeaux vintage where the petits châteaux wines shone brightly. For the Loire, often sidelined for its fruity reds, 2009 was exceptional.

Château Fougère La Noble, 2009, Bordeaux
Lovely merlot-dominated Claret from the Entre-Deux-Mers, perfect for drinking young. Now to 2014. 13.5%
ref UV-CB3821 £6.75 bottle £8.1 dozen

Domaine de l’Arjolle Rouge, Vin de Pays des Côtes de Thongue, Cuvée Cabernet-Merlot, 2009
A generously flavoured cabernet-merlot blend from the Languedoc. Great value for money. Now to 2016. 13%
ref UV-FC21171 £7.50 bottle £9 dozen

Château Les Tours Ségy, 2009, Côtes de Bourg
An excellent more generous vintage from this ever-popular property. The blend is predominantly merlot with a touch of cabernet to add structure. Now to 2015. 13.5%
ref UV-CB3621 £7.75 bottle £9.3 dozen

Christian Moueix, 2009, Bordeaux
Another delicious merlot-dominated Claret from Saint-Emilion specialists, JP Moueix. This is full and ripe. Now to 2015. 13.5%
ref UV-CB3851 £7.95 bottle £9.5 dozen

Saumur-Champigny, Château de Targe, 2009
Delightful fresh, fruity Loire cabernet franc from the heart of Champigny country between Saumur and Fontenraud. Now to 2015. 12.5%
ref UV-LO9881 £8.95 bottle £10.7 dozen

Château Monconseil Gazin, 2009, Blaye-Côtes de Bordeaux
Unusual for the inclusion of around 10% mальбек, which contributes black-fruit flavour and which ripened well in this fine vintage. From close to the border with Bourg, and therefore with a certain grip. Now to 2016. 13%
ref UV-CB3831 £8.95 bottle £10.7 dozen

Château Le Clos du Notaire, 2009, Côtes de Bourg
Maire Coutin was the notaire (lawyer) in Jonzac and gave his name to this property on a hillside site overlooking the Gironde. 75% merlot with the balance cabernet, this has the foursquare structure typical of the Bourg appellation, with good fresh attack and pure fruit. Now to 2016. 13.5%
ref UV-CB3501 £9.95 bottle £11.9 dozen

Château La Marzenac, 2009, Lussac-Saint-Emilion
Predominantly merlot with a touch of cabernet franc, this is traditionally made Claret, matured by JP Moueix without the use of new oak, with typical right-bank fruit-cakey flavours, supple palate and well-rounded tannins. Now to 2015. 13.5%
ref UV-CS8321 £9.95 bottle £11.9 dozen

Château Haut Barrail, 2009, Médoc
Classically styled with good use of oak perfectly balanced by the extra generosity of sweeter flavoured fruit that was the blessing of the 2009 harvest. Now to 2015. 13%
ref UV-CM15711 £11.50 bottle £13.8 dozen

Château Larriveau, 2009, Canon-Fronsac
This appellation, close to Pomerol, has seen much attention in recent years and deservedly so. There is 80% merlot and 20% cabernet franc in this full and stylish Claret. Good value too. Now to 2017. 13.5%
ref UV-CS8401 £11.95 bottle £14.3 dozen

Château Saint-André Corbin, 2009, Saint-Georges Saint-Emilion
A modern, opulent Claret with the rich flavours and sweet-tasting palate that come from mature vines, new oak, and this exceptional, fruit-driven vintage. Now to 2014. 14%
ref UV-CS8091 £12.95 bottle £15.5 dozen
Beaujolais

2009 was simply one of the greatest Beaujolais vintages in history. Everything was perfect and the gamay grape gave us something quite special.

Beaujolais-Villages, Vieilles Vignes, Château d’Emeringes, 2009

The château itself is large, and somewhat dilapidated, but the cellars are fine and Vincent David makes a wonderful, full-flavoured style of Beaujolais that has both muscle and fruit. Serve cool. 13%

Pinot noir from Burgundy, Sancerre and Alsace

‘Great’ Gallic vintages are not always so successful for pinot noir as the grape’s delicate flavours can easily be burnt by excessive heat. 2009 was different. The wines are full flavoured while at the same time retaining the charm that is essential for good pinot. Alsace and the Loire were similarly successful.

Alsace Pinot Noir, Hugel, 2009

Delicious cherry-like fruit. Very pure, sweet and well-rounded on the palate. Now to 2014. 12.5%

ref UV-AL8631 £10.50 bottle £126 dozen

Sancerre Rouge, Domaine Serge Laloue, 2009

Franck Laloue has reduced the amount of new oak and moved to 600-litre barrels for his pinot noir and with great success, making this wine approachable now. Perfectly healthy fruit. Now to 2015. 14%

ref UV-LO8941 £14.50 bottle £174 dozen

Morgon Côte du Py, Trenel, 2009

The small obsessive house of Trenel made many fabulous wines in 2009, not least this richly tasting and ripe Morgon from the Côte du Py which after more than a year in bottle is now delicious. Now to 2019. 13%

ref UV-BJ4811 £9.50 bottle £114 dozen

Moulin-à-Vent Château de Beauregard, 2009

A fine, full-flavoured Moulin-à-Vent packed with the ripe-tasting fruit of this outstanding vintage. This is just beginning to take on wonderful Burgundian flavours. Now to 2019. 13%

ref UV-BJ4591 £13.95 bottle £167 dozen

Moulin-à-Vent Château de Beauregard, 2009

A fine, full-flavoured Moulin-à-Vent packed with the ripe-tasting fruit of this outstanding vintage. This is just beginning to take on wonderful Burgundian flavours. Now to 2019. 13%

ref UV-BJ4591 £13.95 bottle £167 dozen

2009 from the backwoods: Gaillac and Madiran

France is full of vinous surprises from lost or neglected vineyards. Most of these come from vineyards in the Pyrenees that date back to the Middle Ages.

Gaillac, Domaine de Pialentou, Les Gentilles Pierres, 2009

A fabulous vintage which was going to be sold in bulk as times are hard. We persuaded them to bottle 200 cases exclusively for The Society. Full flavoured, well structured and ripe. This is lovely now but will keep and develop in bottle too. Now to 2017. 13.5%

ref UV-FC22811 £8.75 bottle £105 dozen

Madiran, Odé d’Aydie, 2009

The Laplace family at Château d’Aydie has three generations’ experience of coaxing deliciously dark, ripe flavours from the grippy tannat grape. With perfect balance, lovely concentration and great length, this would make the ideal partner to a good old-fashioned cassoulet. Now to 2019. 14%

ref UV-FC22571 £9.50 bottle £114 dozen
The Rhône Valley and beyond: grenache, syrah and mourvèdre

As in the rest of France, 2009 was a perfect Rhône vintage especially in the north where the syrah grape produced a succession of remarkable wines. Further south in the Languedoc, 2009 produced strapping wines with character and concentration.

Côtes-du-Rhône, Château Courac, 2009
Lovely, deeply coloured Rhône which packs lots of flavour for its modest price. A grenache-syrah blend where the syrah was particularly splendid. Now to 2016. 14%
ref UV-RH29001 £7.75 bottle £93 dozen

Séguret Côtes-du-Rhône Villages Tradition, Domaine de Mourchon, 2009
Mourchon keeps on getting better with every year; the 2009, from a usual mix of grenache, syrah and a little carignan, is sweet and juicy. Now to 2017. 14.5%
ref UV-FC21001 £11.95 bottle £143 dozen

Saint-Chinian, Côte d’Arbo, Mas Champart, 2009
Sumptuous and richly fruity Languedoc red made principally from carignan and syrah. Now to 2015. 13.5%
ref UV-FC22651 £9.95 bottle £119 dozen

Syrah L’Appel des Sereines, Domaine Villard, 2009
A lovely ripe-flavoured syrah with sensual appeal from vines close to Condrieu in the northern Rhône. Now to 2015. 12.5%
ref UV-RH28611 £11.50 bottle £138 dozen

Corbières, Grande Cuvée Castelmaure, 2009
It doesn’t get much wilder than in this remote part of the Corbières where a spirit of true solidarity seems to exist like nowhere else. All the wine is made by the co-op which is one of the best in France. This is one of their top wines which is very full bodied, rich and deeply expressive with smooth, ripe tannins. Now to 2015. 14.5%
ref UV-FC21401 £12.95 bottle £155 dozen
ref UV-FC21404 £27.50 per magnum £165 per six

Montpeyroux-Côtesaux du Languedoc, Domaine Aupilhac, 2009
This small, but choice, area, cooled by the breezes sweeping down from the Massif Central, has less rainfall than Pic-Saint Loup and produces long-lived reds of Claret-like reserve. This is full-bodied, richly-flavoured and multi-layered; best served from a decanter. Now to 2019. 14%
ref UV-FC21401 £12.95 bottle £155 dozen

Crozes-Hermitage, Louis Barruol, 2009
Louis Barruol is a famous grower in Gigondas but with a fine palate for the Rhône in general which has allowed him to buy small parcels of outstanding wine from select growers. His Crozes is an absolute classic and comes from behind Hermitage on steep slopes which in 2009 produced fabulous wines. Now to 2018. 13%
ref UV-RH28851 £16 bottle £192 dozen

See over for more whites...

THE WHITES

Loire and Alsace

The 2009s from these famous white-wine regions were made from super-ripe crops of perfectly healthy fruit. They have a crystal-like purity of fruit and fragrance, and always with real personality.

Vouvray, Les Grenouilles, Demi-Sec, 2009 (Vincent et Tania Carême)
Strong acidity is here tempered by 14 grams of residual sugar, making this an off-dry, or ‘sec tendre,’ style, not quite as sweet as demi-sec. Classic and delicious. Now to 2014. 13.5%
ref UV-LO9771 £10.95 bottle £131 dozen

Gewurztraminer, Hugel, 2009
This is full flavoured, rich and strong with plenty of spice. The heat of the 2009 summer in Alsace suited the gewurztraminer grape well. Now to 2015. 13%
ref UV-AL9851 £13.75 bottle £165 dozen

Riesling, Réserve, Trimbach, 2009
Bone-dry riesling which is very precise, minerally, straight and pure. All of the fruit comes from around Ribeauvillé with some from Trimbach’s own vines. Now to 2018. 13%
ref UV-AL8851 £14.50 bottle £174 dozen

Savennières, Domaine du Closel, 2009
Classic Loire chenin with the ripeness of the 2009 vintage but bone dry as good Savennières should be. Pike for tea maybe! Now to 2016. 14%
ref UV-LO8841 £14.50 bottle £174 dozen

See over for more whites...
Bordeaux and Burgundy

Two contrasting styles from France’s two best-known regions, both of which flourished in this excellent year.

1. Vieux Château Gaubert, 2009, Graves
Rich, dry, barrel-fermented white Graves from Dominique Haverlan; a superb example of a classic style. Now to 2014. 12.5%
Ref UV-BW3961 £11.95 bottle £143 dozen

2. Château Doisy-Daëne Sec, 2009, Bordeaux
Made at the Dubourdieu’s Barsac property in a modern style. 100% sauvignon, freshly scented with touches of honey and lemon, brisk invigorating flavour and fine length on the palate. Drink this year and next. 13%
Ref UV-BW4031 £14.95 bottle £179 dozen

One of the stars in our range, this opulent Mâcon is made from biodynamic grapes, grown near Clessé, and offers wonderful value. Unoaked. Now to 2015. 13%
Ref UV-BU49091 £13.50 bottle £162 dozen

4. Pouilly-Fuissé Charmes, Château de Beauregard, 2009
Lovely balanced Burgundy from a cool village, Vergisson, in a warm year. Fermented and matured in barrel for a year. Now to 2014. 13.5%
Ref UV-BU46361 £22.50 bottle £270 dozen

5. Pouilly-Fuissé Grand Beauregard, Château de Beauregard, 2009
Big, broad and powerful Burgundy made from the best barrels from the best vineyards owned by Château de Beauregard from most of the communes of Pouilly-Fuissé and aged about 18 months in barrel. Sumptuous! Now to 2016. 13.5%
Ref UV-BU48791 £37 bottle £444 dozen

6. Meursault en la Barre, Domaine Antoine et François Jobard, 2009
Jobard’s backward style was given a little extra flesh in the ripe 2009 vintage and the result is a beautifully balanced Meursault, with an ample richness supported by a firm structure. 2013 to 2017. 13%
Ref UV-BU47991 £37 bottle £444 dozen

With Domaine Leflaive, Henri Boillot is producing the best Puligny available. The grandson of Etienne Sauzet, Henri Boillot picked his 2009s early to maintain the acidity and has made some of the best wines of the vintage. Despite the warmth of the vintage this is fine, firm Puligny with great length of flavour. Now to 2017.
13%
This wine is only available in the 2009 Fine White Burgundy Mixed Case

The Languedoc

2009 was also a brilliant year for southern whites, echoing the successes of the Rhône. The best, such as this Corbières from the Sichel family, will keep well.

Lovely, herby marsanne-roussanne blend from deep in Cathar country and from an estate founded by the late Peter Sichel. Now to 2015. 14%
Ref UV-FC20791 £9.95 bottle £119 dozen

See the back page for mixed cases

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Drinking wine bought from The Wine Society should be a pleasurable experience. If at any time you are dissatisfied, we would like to hear from you. Contact us and we will be pleased to help.

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To order visit thewinesociety.com/2009vintage or call 01438 740222 or via the smartphone app

2009 Mixed Reds Case
ref UV-MX125125 at £85
A six-bottle case containing one bottle of the following:
- Moulin-à-Vent, Château de Beauregard, 2009
- Sancerre Rouge, Domaine Serge Laloue, 2009
- Crozes-Hermitage, Louis Barruol, 2009
- The Society’s Exhibition Monthélie, Domaine Louis Jadot, 2009
- Corbières, Grande Cuvée Castelmaure, 2009
- Château Haut Barrant 2009, Médoc

2009 Mixed Dozen
ref UV-MX125130 at £119
A 12-bottle case containing one bottle each of the following eight red wines and four white wines:

Reds
- Morgon Côte du Py, Trenel, 2009
- Saint-Chinian, Côte d’Arbo, Mas Chambert, 2009
- Alsace Pinot Noir, Hugel, 2009
- Bourgogne Rouge, Vieilles Vignes, Cuvée Réserve, Maison Roche de Bellene, 2009
- Syrah L’Appel des Sereines, Domaine Villard, 2009
- Christian Moueix, 2009, Bordeaux
- Madiran, Ode d’Aydie, 2009

Whites
- Corbières Blanc, Domaine du Trillol, 2009
- Riesling, Réserve, Trimbach, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Hugel, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Domaine Guilelmet Michel, 2009

2009 Mixed Dozen
ref UV-MX125130 at £119
A 12-bottle case containing one bottle each of the following eight red wines and four white wines:

Reds
- Morgon Côte du Py, Trenel, 2009
- Saint-Chinian, Côte d’Arbo, Mas Chambert, 2009
- Alsace Pinot Noir, Hugel, 2009
- Bourgogne Rouge, Vieilles Vignes, Cuvée Réserve, Maison Roche de Bellene, 2009
- Syrah L’Appel des Sereines, Domaine Villard, 2009
- Christian Moueix, 2009, Bordeaux
- Madiran, Ode d’Aydie, 2009

Whites
- Corbières Blanc, Domaine du Trillol, 2009
- Riesling, Réserve, Trimbach, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Hugel, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Domaine Guilelmet Michel, 2009

2009 Clarets
ref UV-MX125127 at £129
A 12-bottle case containing two bottles each of the following six: reds:
- Château Monconseil Gazin, 2009, Blaye-Côtes de Bordeaux
- Château Le Clos du Notaire, 2009, Côtes de Bourg
- Château La Marzenac, 2009, Lussac-St-Émilion
- Château Haut Barrant, 2009, Médoc
- Château Larriveau, 2009, Canon-Fronsac
- Château Saint-André Corbin, 2009, Saint-Georges-Saint-Émilion

2009 Whites
ref UV-MX125128 at £75
A six-bottle case containing one bottle each of the following six whites:
- Savennières, Domaine du Clozel, 2009
- Vouvray, Les Grenouilles, Demi-Sec, 2009 (Vincent et Tania Carême)
- Château Doisy-Daëne Sec, 2009, Bordeaux
- Bourgogne Les Raverttes, Domaine Guilelmet Michel, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Hugel, 2009
- Riesling, Réserve, Trimbach, 2009

2009 Everyday Reds Case
ref UV-MX125126 at £95
A 12-bottle case containing two bottles each of the following six reds:
- Domaine de l’Arjolle Rouge, Vin de Pays des Côtes de Thongue, Cuvée Cabernet-Merlot, 2009
- Château Les Tours Séguy, 2009, Côtes de Bourg
- Beaujolais-Villages, Vieilles Vignes, Château d’Emeringes, 2009
- Gaillac Domaine de Pialentou, 2009
- Côtes-du-Rhône, Château Courac, 2009
- Saumur-Champigny Château de Targe, 2009

2009 Fine White Burgundy
ref UV-MX125129 at £249
A six-bottle case containing two bottles each of the following three whites:
- Pouilly-Fuissé Grand Beauregard, Château de Beauregard, 2009
- Meursault en la Barre, Domaine Antoine et François Jobard, 2009
- Puligny-Montrachet Premier Cru Perrières, Domaine Henri Boillot, 2009

2009 Mixed Dozen
ref UV-MX125130 at £119
A 12-bottle case containing one bottle each of the following eight red wines and four white wines:

Reds
- Morgon Côte du Py, Trenel, 2009
- Saint-Chinian, Côte d’Arbo, Mas Chambert, 2009
- Alsace Pinot Noir, Hugel, 2009
- Bourgogne Rouge, Vieilles Vignes, Cuvée Réserve, Maison Roche de Bellene, 2009
- Syrah L’Appel des Sereines, Domaine Villard, 2009
- Christian Moueix, 2009, Bordeaux
- Madiran, Ode d’Aydie, 2009

Whites
- Corbières Blanc, Domaine du Trillol, 2009
- Riesling, Réserve, Trimbach, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Hugel, 2009
- Gewurztraminer, Domaine Guilelmet Michel, 2009

2009 Everyday Reds Case
ref UV-MX125126 at £95
A 12-bottle case containing two bottles each of the following six reds:
- Domaine de l’Arjolle Rouge, Vin de Pays des Côtes de Thongue, Cuvée Cabernet-Merlot, 2009
- Château Les Tours Séguy, 2009, Côtes de Bourg
- Beaujolais-Villages, Vieilles Vignes, Château d’Emeringes, 2009
- Gaillac Domaine de Pialentou, 2009
- Côtes-du-Rhône, Château Courac, 2009
- Saumur-Champigny Château de Targe, 2009