

Orders by Post, Fax
and Website only
by 5pm, Friday 8th July 2005

2004 Bordeaux In-Bond

Classic well-balanced Clarets with finesse for keeping



Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste – a great success in 2004

The finest wines of the 2004 vintage show the classic attributes of good Claret: fragrant aroma and the harmonious, well-balanced flavour that comes from fresh and well-ripened fruit. These wines will be a great pleasure to drink over the next five to 30 years as indicated in the individual notes. Because the dollar is weaker against the euro, and the crop larger than last year, prices of leading châteaux' wines have been reduced significantly; for example, Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Belair and Pichon-Lalande, all of which made excellent wine in 2004, are respectively £75, £95 and £200 per case cheaper than last year. So, there are good bargains to be had.

WHO MADE THE BEST WINES?

After two relatively small harvests in 2002 (due to poor flowering) and in 2003 (because of heat stress) the vine wanted to produce a large crop. During a year which was slightly warmer than the average of the last 60 years, with a slightly drier July and September, though wetter August, the key was to take drastic measures in the vineyard to limit yields so that the grapes would ripen perfectly.

Well-positioned vineyards of leading châteaux, whose grapes always ripen earlier than their neighbours, were as ever at a great advantage. It is no accident that our selection is filled with top names from Pauillac, St Julien, Margaux, the St Emilion vineyards on the côtes near the town and from the plateau of Pomerol. But better understanding of vineyard management has become much more widespread in the last two decades and there are star performers who achieved great results in humbler appellations such as Jean-Louis Despagne, Olivier Sèze, Denis Dubourdieu, François Mitjavile and others. These people are making great wines year in year out, regularly superior to underperforming classed-growths.

HOW WILL THEY DEVELOP?

It is tempting to compare the style of a new vintage with past Claret vintages to help predict the way its wines will evolve. Several growers, *maitres de chais* and the wise wine consultant Jacques Boissenot, who advises many châteaux (from Léoville-Barton to Dutruch-Grand-Poujeaux) recalled 1986 in the Médoc. This was another large crop that was very successful in the Médoc. But the 2004 summer was milder and the tannins are softer and more approachable, and growing and winemaking practices have improved. Green harvesting in the vines and sorting tables in the vineyard and at the cellar door are now commonplace. Others suggested a riper 2001. All the wines we have chosen shared an excellent balance, fine aroma and freshness to the fruit, with ripe tannins necessary for keeping quality present, but much less obtrusive than in 2003.



When demand exceeds supply

Demand for the top wines may be high. We share out oversubscribed wines as widely as possible down to a minimum practical level per member. Please be aware that some wines will still sell out and you should indicate on the order form your preferred substitute should your first choice be sold out. Alternatively, you can allow The Society to choose for you. Allowing substitution and/or suggesting a preferred alternative will help to increase the likelihood of receiving wines in a similar style should your first choice be sold out; it will not lessen your chances of getting your first choice.

Unless you tell us otherwise, we will assume you are happy to receive suitable substitutes, chosen by ourselves. We will only substitute with wines that we believe to be of similar quality to those requested.

How this offer works

Orders by post, fax and website will be accepted. If you would like to order via the website, visit www.thewinesociety.com and follow the on-screen instructions. You need a password to access the site which can be requested online and will be posted to you the following working day. Your order should arrive at Stevenage by **5pm, Friday 8th July 2005** and will be processed thereafter.

Members whose orders have been received by 5pm, Friday 8th July 2005 will receive confirmation of their purchase by Friday, 12th August 2005 at the latest. Members whose orders have been received after this time will receive notification by Friday, 26th August 2005.

Notifications by email

The Society is able to send transactional correspondence including notification of wines allocated for opening offers, and subsequent invoices, by email. For full details please visit www.thewinesociety.com and click on My Account then Preferred Contact Method.

If you wish to receive email notifications for this and subsequent opening offers, and have not already notified us, please see the order form for instructions.

What the price includes

- Prices shown include delivery to a UK address. They do not include excise duty or VAT.
- Payment of duty and VAT, at the prevailing rate (currently £15.09 duty per 12-bottle case and 17.5% VAT payable on wine and duty) will be requested once the wines arrive at Stevenage. This is expected to be late summer 2007.
- Once the wines arrive in the UK, members may opt to have them delivered within the UK or stored in duty-paid Members' Reserves.

Notes

- Members, especially those living overseas, should note that only unmixed cases may be exported or transferred to an outside bond.
- Wines are offered in cases of 12 or six bottles as indicated.
- Please note that these wines cannot be collected or delivered from our showroom in Montreuil.

Please read the full terms and conditions for this offer set out on the enclosed order form or on our website before placing your order.

This offer will close at **5pm, Friday 8th July 2005**. For information regarding this offer after this date please contact us on 01438 740222.

2004 CLARET IN-BOND

- | | | £ |
|--------------|---|--------|
| M 1. | CM8871 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc
Very well-made wine with ripe fruit and a touch of class, to be enjoyed relatively soon after the vintage. Hard to beat in terms of value for money. 2007–2012. <i>Magnums available.</i> | 62.00 |
| 2. | CB2201 Château Bel Air, Perponcher Grande Cuvée, Bordeaux Supérieur
Jean-Louis Despagne makes delicious pure ripe Claret from low yields of immaculately cared for fruit. Modern Bordeaux in the best sense and outstanding in its appellation. 2007–2011. | 72.00 |
| 3. | CS5021 Château Puygueraud, Côtes de Francs
Aged vines on excellent terroir on the border with Lussac-St Emilion produce, in Nicolas Thienpont's hands, a wine of elegance and character that will develop with ageing. 2009–2015. | 72.00 |
| 4. | CM8891 Château Dutruch-Grand-Poujeaux, Moulis
The Cordonnier family's property next to Chasse-Spleen, which includes merlot vines planted in 1902, has been a shrewd buy for several vintages. A full-flavoured Claret worth keeping till 2009–2015. | 78.00 |
| 5. | CB2211 Château Mont-Pérat, Premières Côtes de Bordeaux
Only small quantities are made here of powerful, finely scented long-lasting Claret from low yields of 80% merlot and 10% each of the cabernets by the Despagne team. 2009–2015. | 78.00 |
| 6. | CM8901 Château Tronquoy-Lalande, St Estèphe
Lovely blackcurrant aroma and full, structured palate with real 'fat' and quality, reflecting an excellent terroir. This is a 'keeper'. 2012–2018. | 82.00 |
| 7. | CM8911 Château Charmail, Haut-Médoc
More and more buyers have been beating a path to Olivier Sèze's door to secure what has been consistently one of the most enjoyable Clarets for its price. Generous ripe aroma, richly fruity 'fleshy' palate and good length. Will give great pleasure. 2009–2015. | 90.00 |
| 8. | CM8921 Château Hortevie, St Julien
Sadly, M. Pradère, winemaker here, died two years ago but fortunately for members who have followed his wines, his vineyard has been bought by his neighbour Bruno Borie of Ducru-Beaucaillou. He is giving what was always excellent-value, cedary St Julien, extra polish. 2010–2016. | 90.00 |
| 9. | CS5031 Château La Dauphine, Fronsac
Both this and its stablemate, Canon de Brem, shone out at a couple of comparative tastings for their perfumed fruit, charm and finesse. La Dauphine, with vines lower down the slope overlooking the Dordogne, has supple fruit and will be the one to drink first. 2008–2013. | 90.00 |
| 10. | CS5041 Château Canon de Brem, Canon-Fronsac
Round, full, yet with lovely freshness, perfume, good 'middle' and length. A complete wine and a proper reward for the efforts of new owner, Jean Halley, in making the most of a splendid vineyard. 2009–2015. | 98.00 |
| M 11. | CM8941 Château Batailley, Pauillac
Lovely firm black-fruit quality with a touch of hazelnuts at this stage. Owner Pierre Castéja believes it will develop in the style of '86 and '96 but better. We agree and believe he has raised the quality of his already consistent wine up a notch since the 2002 vintage. 2010–2020. <i>Magnums available.</i> | 128.00 |
| 12. | CM8931 Château Meyney, St Estèphe
Aroma of smoky plums backed by a full, structured palate with a hint of liquorice. A relatively high proportion of excellent petit verdot adds body. A keeper, this is in the style, the <i>maitre de chai</i> thinks, of the 1989, and will be at its peak in ten years. 2010–2019. | 130.00 |
| M 13. | CM8951 Château d'Angludet, Margaux
To the despair of his brothers who sell the wine, winemaker Ben made little more wine in 2004 than last year, but they are all justly proud of its quality. Generously full, ripe and soft. 2010–2018. <i>Magnums available.</i> | 130.00 |



Jean-Louis
Despagne



Claire Villars-Lurton



Château d'Angludet

ref		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED per six	per dozen
14.	CS5051 Château Bourgneuf, Pomerol With real quality evident on the nose and long-lasting flavour, this is a good price for a wine from such a well-placed vineyard on the plateau of Pomerol. 2010–2018.	-	£140.00
15.	CM8961 Château Haut-Bages-Libéral, Pauillac Bags of fresh ripe blackcurrant fruit and excellent body and balance to support it. Claire Villars' energy, enthusiasm and investment in vineyard and cellars are really paying off. With 2000, this 2004 is the best of the last five admirable vintages here. 2011–2020.	-	£140.00
16.	CM8971 Château Durfort-Vivens, Margaux Fine Margaux aroma, backed with excellent-quality, ripe, fresh fruit. Gonzague Lurton is realising the potential of this vineyard with a Claret of individuality, elegance and power. 2011–2020.	-	£140.00
17.	CS5061 Château Berliquet, St Emilion This looked good each time we tried it in comparative tastings, with its rich fresh fruit and seductive texture. Patrick Valette is making the most of this excellent, once underrated, vineyard. 2010–2018.	-	£160.00
18.	CS5071 Château Bellevue, St Emilion Thick, ripe, sweet fruit. A wine with promise from a small vineyard between Angélus and Beauséjour run by Nicolas Thienpont. 2009–2018.	£83.00	-
19.	CM8981 Château Duhart-Milon-Rothschild, Pauillac Benefiting from the considerable expertise and resources of the Lafite team under Charles Chevallier, this is a classic Pauillac still tight-knit but with excellent potential. Good value. 2013–2020.	-	£168.00
20.	CM8991 Château La Lagune, Haut-Médoc Rich, polished and sweetly fruity well-balanced Claret with delightful vitality, the latest in a line of five admirable vintages from this property. Will be delicious from 2009 but will keep well till 2018.	-	£175.00
21.	CM9001 Château Talbot, St Julien The ex-Latour <i>maitre de chai</i> , at Talbot since 1990, says his merlot (42% of the blend) was better quality than in 2003. The total result, though a shade less rich than last year, will give great pleasure with its supple flavour and plenty of substance. 2009–2018.	-	£175.00
22.	CS5211 Château Larcis-Ducasse, St Emilion Under new direction, this property is revealing in the last two vintages some stunning potential. A silky wine with clean and lovely bouquet. 2010–2018.	-	£180.00
23.	CB2221 Château Roc de Cambes, Côtes de Bourg François Mitjavile of Tertre Rôteboeuf makes the finest wine of its appellation from this super vineyard year in year out. Lovely perfumed aroma, good grip and structure. A classic. 2009–2015.	£90.00	-
24.	CM9031 Château Brane-Cantenac, Margaux A wine of great charm and elegance with engaging floral, almost violet aroma and seductive texture. Reminiscent of '86, says owner Henri Lurton, who started at the château that year. 2011–2020.	-	£185.00

<i>ref</i>		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED <i>per dozen</i>
25.	CM9051 Alter Ego de Palmer, Margaux This is the deliciously supple and fragrant second wine of Palmer made from half each of merlot and cabernet to be ready to drink sooner. With its black-cherry aroma and fresh, ripe palate, this is a charmer. 2008–2014.	£190.00
26.	CM9311 Domaine de Chevalier, Pessac-Léognan Olivier Bernard makes one of the most stylish Clarets of all. Elegant and refined but with excellent, ripe fruit and structure. 2012–2022.	£190.00
27.	CM9011 Château Langoa-Barton, St Julien A classic St Julien from Anthony Barton with ripe fruit and 'openly' enjoyable style and plenty of weight and flavour. 2011–2020.	£198.00
28.	CM9101 Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Pauillac François Xavier-Borie has beautifully combined the freshness and charm of the vintage with the richness and 'breed' of his superbly placed and managed vineyard. This will always be a delight to drink. 2011–2020.	£200.00
		
	<i>François Xavier-Borie</i>	
29.	CM9061 Carruades de Lafite, Pauillac Charles Chevallier agrees that the objective of a second wine is to have some of the finesse of the grand vin, without the depth and structure that mean you have to wait so long to enjoy it. This fine, supple Claret proves his point very pleasurably. 2008–2015.	£210.00
30.	CM9071 Bahans-Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan With 73% cabernet sauvignon, 22% merlot and 5% cabernet franc, this is another aspect of the great Haut-Brion vineyard. Ripe, soft-black fruit is evident but serious grip and length too which will evolve beautifully. 2010–2020.	£210.00
31.	CM9081 Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux, Margaux Seductively perfumed Margaux aroma and texture underscored by good, ripe tannin which means that this deserves to be kept till 2010–2020.	£210.00
32.	CM9111 Château Léoville-Poyferré, St Julien Spicily scented full-bodied yet fresh-tasting second growth which has been very much in form recently with a smoother texture than the other Léovilles. 2014–2024.	£210.00
33.	CM9091 Château Gruaud-Larose, St Julien Ripe, full, generous well-structured Claret. Late-picked cabernet is full of ripeness giving a long satisfying finish to the flavour. 2012–2024.	£215.00
M 34.	CM9041 Château Haut-Bailly, Pessac-Léognan A splendid success with sumptuous fruit, rich palate and complexity of flavour. With the help of owner Robert Wilmers' investment in vineyard and cellar, this first-class vineyard's wines have never been better but remain true to their lovely individual style. 2011–2024. <i>Magnums available.</i>	£225.00
M 35.	CS5081 Château Belair, St Emilion Fragrant, floral, stylish with a delicious core of inner sweetness and long-lasting finish, this is a great success and a tribute to Pascal Delbeck's scrupulously cared-for, biodynamically cultivated vineyard. 2010–2020. <i>Magnums available.</i>	£225.00
36.	CM9261 Château Calon-Ségur, St Estèphe This great vineyard has been making delicious Claret with bags of ripe fruit and dense, rich St Estèphe character. A keeper. 2012–2025.	£230.00
37.	CM9141 Château Pontet-Canet, Pauillac A big rich, solid, full-flavoured Pauillac with a wealth of flavours now tightly coiled in place awaiting development. Great efforts are being made at this property. 2014–2024.	£240.00
38.	CM9161 Château Lynch-Bages, Pauillac Rich, full-flavoured Pauillac dominated by ripe cabernet sauvignon (84%); extremely enjoyable drinking in about seven to eight years time. 2010–2020.	£240.00

ref	IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED		
	per six	per dozen	
39. CS5091	Château Pavie-Macquin, St Emilion Impressively rich St Emilion from further round on this Côtes vineyard next to Pavie, loaded with sweet fruit. 2008–2010.	£130.00	-
40. CM9151	Château Rauzan-Ségla, Margaux Delightfully pure, soft, ripe fruit which has maintained its freshness over its many-faceted well-balanced flavour. Will make a lovely bottle in seven or eight years but will keep beautifully too. 2011–2024.	-	£270.00
M 41. CM9121	Château Léoville-Barton, St Julien A classic vintage for Anthony Barton with full-bodied, classy flavour of sweet fruit, length and good structure to keep. Quite deservedly a favourite with Wine Society members. 2014–2024. <i>Magnums available.</i>	-	£275.00
42. CS5221	Clos Fourtet, St Emilion One of the great châteaux of Côtes St Emilion now right back on form with generously full, fine-flavoured Claret. 2011–2020.	-	£275.00
43. CM9131	Les Forts de Latour, Pauillac Les Forts is a separate part of the first-growth Latour which could be included in the first wine but is not. Very high-grade, stylish wine with 'centre' and length. Best kept at least 10 years. 2014–2020.	-	£300.00
44. CM9171	Château Montrose, St Estèphe A powerful and classic Montrose, rather like a riper version of this property's excellent 1996 and very much worth laying down for the future. 2015–2025.	-	£310.00
45. CS5101	Château La Fleur Pétrus, Pomerol Pure, beautifully scented fruit and full and, at this stage, firm structure and considerable length. The quality of the old vines and great terroir shows its class. 2012–2022.	£178.00	-
46. CM9181	Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, St Julien Big, rich-style Ducru with multi-faceted, wonderful-quality fruit. Stricter selection in the last two vintages has intensified the flavour of this great St Julien. 2015–2025.	-	£375.00
47. CM9191	Château Pichon-Longueville-Comtesse de Lalande, Pauillac A Pauillac of haunting fragrance and above all charm. Neighbour to St Julien (a proportion of the vines are AC St Julien) and with an individual mix of grapes, 53% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot, 4% cabernet franc and 7% petit verdot, this will be fragrant, full and seductive Claret. 2010–2024.	-	£395.00
48. CS5111	Vieux-Château-Certan, Pomerol Even the perennially diffident Alexandre Thienpont admits he has made a 'cracker' this year. 30% old-vine cabernet franc will make this a classic example for keeping like the 1988 or 2000. Wonderful fragrance, centre, length and freshness too. 2015–2025.	£225.00	-
M 49. CM9201	Château Palmer, Margaux A gorgeous wine; rich, ripe and opulent, this will give a huge amount of pleasure. Perhaps a more concentrated version of the excellent 2001 vintage. Worth keeping till 2012–2025. <i>Magnums available.</i>	-	£485.00
50. CS5131	Château L'Evangile, Pomerol With 89% merlot, this is an exuberant, seductive cornucopia of rich, ripe, fragrant fruit of great depth and class. 2010–2022.	£248.00	-
51. CS5121	Château Hosanna, Pomerol Lovely quality cabernet franc gives this wine magical bouquet and length of flavour which is fleshed out by the richer merlot. The Moueix challenge to Cheval Blanc, this is very fine too. 2012–2024.	£290.00	-
52. CM9321	Château La Mission Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan Very classy, complex, serious but alluring Claret from a great vineyard. 55% merlot, 42% cabernet sauvignon and 3% cabernet franc. 2010–2025.	£300.00	-

ref		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED	
		per six	per dozen
53.	CM9211 Château Mouton-Rothschild, Pauillac Wonderfully ripe, concentrated wine which is almost the essence of classic Mouton of earlier vintages. Impressive and fine. 2015–2030.	£480.00	-
54.	CM9221 Château Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan The finest vintage here, we think, since 2000. A big, powerful wine yet with inner sweetness and elegance. 61% merlot, 20% cabernet sauvignon, 19% cabernet franc, and in the style of the '85, the home team believes. 2015–2030.	£480.00	-
55.	CM9251 Château Lafite, Pauillac Splendid Lafite, built to last, combining power, finesse and perfectly-balanced structure. 90% cabernet sauvignon. 2015–2030.	£480.00	-
56.	CM9241 Château Margaux, Margaux Quite a contrast in style with the huge-scale 2003, this has outstanding fragrance and finesse. Pure, ripe and well rounded with freshness reminiscent of the 2002 and 1996. 2015–2030. <i>Maximum six bottles per member.</i>	£495.00	-
57.	CM9231 Château Latour, Pauillac A classic Latour with 89% cabernet sauvignon. Rich, ripe, distinguished and long lasting. Perhaps even finer than the '96, less mineral and ripe than the '86, two great vintages of the past in the same line. 2015–2030. <i>Maximum six bottles per member.</i>	£600.00	-

2004 DRY WHITE BORDEAUX IN-BOND

58.	BW2541 Clos Floridène, Graves A delicious white from Denis Dubourdieu, master white-wine maker, made from 55% sauvignon, 45% semillon, fermented and aged in barrel.	-	£85.00
59.	BW2551 Domaine de Chevalier Blanc, Pessac-Léognan Immensely attractive, elegant and haunting aroma backed by intense, rich, mineral, citrus flavours that will mellow with ageing. 2008–2018.	-	£330.00

2004 SWEET WHITES IN-BOND

H 60.	BW2561 Château Doisy-Daëne, Barsac Rich and luscious with delicious aroma, the result of a higher than usual proportion of sauvignon blanc. An exceptionally good 2004, the reward for Denis Dubourdieu's scrupulous work in the vineyard. 2009–2020. <i>Halves available.</i>	-	£175.00
61.	BW2571 Château Rieussec, Sauternes Opulent aroma with haunting apricot and honey backed by rich and luscious but lively sweetness in the mouth. A great success. 2010–2025.	-	£250.00
H 62.	BW2581 Château Climens, Barsac This wine was still in its component parts when we tasted barrels around the cellar but the ingredients are wonderfully promising with power, great richness and luscious depth but 'lift' as well. Experience assures us that this will be a classic Climens for keeping. 2012–2030. <i>Halves available.</i>	-	£365.00
H 63.	BW2591 Château d'Yquem, Sauternes The greatest vineyard in the district has produced in 2004 a dessert wine that is not only gloriously rich and lusciously full but a wine of real elegance, finesse and freshness too, recalling some of the great vintages of the fifties. 2010–2050. <i>Halves available.</i>	-	£1,300.00



Denis Dubourdieu

MIXED CASES

GOOD VALUE BORDEAUX CASE 2004

ref OC1536 at £86.00

*A 12-bottle case containing three bottles
each of the following four reds*

2007–2015

Château Dutruch-Grand-Poujeaux,
Moulis

Château Canon de Brem,
Canon Fronsac

Château Charmail, Haut-Médoc

Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc

OLD FRIENDS CASE 2004

ref OC1546 at £126.00

*A 12-bottle case containing three bottles
each of the following four reds*

2010–2020

Château Batailley, Pauillac

Château Hortevie, St Julien

Château d'Angludet, Margaux

Château Haut-Bages-Libéral, Pauillac

FIRST GROWTH SECONDS CASE 2004

ref OC1566 at £237.00

*A 12-bottle case containing three bottles
each of the following four reds*

2008–2020

Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux,
Margaux

Bahans-Haut-Brion, Pessac-Léognan

Les Forts de Latour, Pauillac

Carruades de Lafite, Pauillac

FOUR FAMOUS COMMUNES CASE 2004

ref OC1556 at £242.00

*A 12-bottle case containing three bottles
each of the following four reds*

2010–2024

Château Gruaud-Larose, St Julien

Château Haut-Bailly, Pessac-Léognan

Château Rauzan-Ségla, Margaux

Château Lynch-Bages, Pauillac

This offer will close at 5pm, Friday 8th July 2005

For details of price and availability after this date, please contact The Wine Society on 01438 740222.

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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