

Orders by Post, Fax  
and Website only  
by 5pm, Tuesday 4th July 2006

# 2005 Bordeaux In-Bond

*A brilliant vintage*



*Château Batailley has made its best wine ever in 2005*

2005 is a brilliant and exciting vintage for Bordeaux. Everyone who enjoys Claret should buy as much as they can afford.

The secret of its success is that all the elements which make good wine are present in abundance and, crucially, also in balance. The fruit was completely ripe, healthy and high in natural sugar. This natural sweetness was balanced by vibrant fruit which gives the wines lovely perfume, freshness and lift. Then, because it was one of the driest growing seasons ever, grapes were small with a high ratio of skin to pulp. This imbues the grapes with a bright vivid colour and ripe tannins that will help preserve the wines well over a long period and allow them the slow evolution which shows Claret at its best. This combination of events reminded some older members of the trade of the fabled 1961 vintage. My memory of wine in cask does not go back that far. I can only say with confidence that no vintage of the last 25 years has quite the same combination of attributes or seemed quite so promising at so many levels at this stage.

## HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

2005 was a year of drought, about half the average amount of rain fell during the growing period with a particularly dry August. Very good for vines. Bad for parasites. Though the summer was hot, heat was never excessive and nights, unlike in 2003, were cool, so the maturation period was long and the fruit kept its freshness. When the vines were gasping for water, a little rain fell, but not too much. Harvesting took place in excellent conditions, with the merlot, which was threatening over-ripeness by mid September, picked well before the cabernet which achieved ripeness perfectly but more slowly. Christian Moueix told me that in his 35 vintages, 2005 and 1982 were the two easiest years to manage because everything went smoothly all year. The only tough decision was when to pick. A few owners in their search for super-ripeness may have left this too late and we have not bought those wines.



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## A DEMOCRATIC VINTAGE

I have said in other years that the most favoured vineyards have a distinctly unfair advantage in ripening earlier. 2005 is a democratic vintage in that growers in all appellations were able to make lovely wine and we have found great buys at every level and in every appellation. Margaux wines were hugely successful, though yields here and in the southern Haut-Médoc are well down, because of their shallow soils when water was short. Pauillac and St Julien are often great. Graves and Pessac-Léognan are well balanced. The heart of Pomerol is particularly fine, as are the top St Emilion vineyards on the 'Côtes' surrounding the town itself which show exceptional finesse. But there are great buys too in the northern Médoc and the less well-known Côtes south of Bordeaux, in Bourg and the outskirts of St Emilion.

Most unusually 2005 is a great year for Sauternes as well as Claret and so we list the pick of these too.

## THE MARKET

It was obvious from the start that 2005 was a special vintage and word quickly circulated encouraging enormous world-wide interest. Owners of the most famous names have understandably decided to profit from this demand and a few will vie with each other to charge the highest price. For this reason we decided to split our opening offer in two, separating those many excellent wines without great international pretensions, which most of us drink more often and whose prices come out earlier, from their more famous, higher-priced neighbours (for example, first-growth Clarets and Château d'Yquem) who will release their prices later.

*Sebastian Payne MW*

### Mixed cases

There is a selection of mixed cases on the back page offering a variety of wines from the vintage.

### Demand

Demand for these excellent wines is likely to be high. Thanks to The Society's long-standing relationships with the region's growers and merchants we will be able to secure good allocations of the most sought-after wines. However, some wines are still likely to be over-subscribed. 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.

### 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](http://www.thewinesociety.com) and follow the on-screen instructions. You need a password to order from the site which can be requested online and will be posted to you the following working day. Your order needs to arrive at Stevenage **by 5pm, Tuesday 4th July 2006** and will be processed thereafter.

Members whose orders have been received by 5pm, Tuesday 4th July 2006 will receive confirmation of their purchase by Wednesday, 26th July 2006 at the latest. Members whose orders have been received after this time will receive notification by Monday, 21st August 2006.

### Notifications by e-mail

The Society is able to send transactional correspondence including notification of wines allocated for opening offers, and subsequent invoices, by e-mail. For full details please visit [www.thewinesociety.com](http://www.thewinesociety.com) and click on My Account then Preferred Contact Method.

If you wish to receive e-mail 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 £15.50 duty per dozen 75cl-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 2008.
- Once the wines arrive at Stevenage, 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 bottles, 12 halves or six magnums 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, Tuesday 4th July 2006**. For information regarding this offer after this date please contact The Society on 01438 740222.

ref

2005 CLARET IN-BOND

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|------|---|--------|
| 1.   | CB2431 <b>Château Brisson, Côtes de Castillon</b><br>A good start to the list, with lots of ripe fruit backed by fine tannins. For drinking 2009–2013.  | £55.00 |
| 2.   | CM9831 <b>Château Tour Saint-Bonnet, Médoc</b><br>Solid, traditional and firm style of Claret with plenty of fruit in this vintage. 2009–2020.  | £55.00 |
| 3.   | CM9881 <b>Château Caronne-Sainte-Gemme, Haut-Médoc</b><br>This popular property, neighbour to southern St Julien, excelled itself in 2005 with full body, character and charm. A tribute to François Nony's efforts in his vineyard. 2013–2020.   | £69.00 |
| 4.   | CB2441 <b>Nectar de la Grave, Côtes de Bourg</b><br>Splendidly rich and full with ripe perfumed bouquet and lots of flavour, the Bassereau's top cuvée and their best vintage ever. 2010–2017.  | £69.00 |
| M 5. | CM9841 <b>Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc</b><br>We believe this is the best vintage this popular property has ever produced; with lovely balance, class and juicy ripe fruit. Will give much pleasure from 2010 to 2017. <i>Magnums available.</i>  | £70.00 |
| 6.   | CM9871 <b>Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc</b><br>An outstanding Cissac similar to their 2000 but with more finesse. This deserves keeping but will be good to drink earlier than past vintages. 2013–2023.   | £70.00 |
| 7.   | CS5631 <b>Château du Courlat, Lussac-St-Emilion</b><br>Fine perfumed fruit supported by well-structured palate. This wine will age well. 2010–2018.   | £72.00 |
| 8.   | CM9891 <b>Château Fourcas-Dupré, Listrac</b><br>This property did very well in 2000 and has done so again in 2005. Proper Médoc grip and character but ripe fruit too. 2010–2020.   | £75.00 |
| 9.   | CB2471 <b>Château Reynon, Premières Côtes de Bordeaux</b><br>One of the finest wines of its district due to the great care the Dubourdiou family take in the vineyard, so the wine is perfumed and fresh with lovely texture. 10% cabernet gives finesse with 90% merlot for richness. 2008–2015.                   | £75.00 |
| 10.  | CB2461 <b>Château Bel Air, Perponcher Grand Vin, Bordeaux</b><br>The Despagne family have been pioneers of top-class wines made from low yields of healthy ripe fruit that have been a model for Bordeaux. You will wallow in this ripe, spicy and seductive wine made with 75% merlot and 25% cabernet. 2008–2015. | £79.00 |



Château Beausite. The quality of this well-placed vineyard has been steadily rising

M indicates magnums available – see Order Form for prices

<i>ref</i>		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED <i>per dozen</i>
11.	CS5441 <b>Château Puy-Blanquet, St Emilion</b> Lovely, fresh, bright, perfumed plummy fruit. Decent St Emilion at a friendly price. 2008–2014.	£79.00
12.	CS5431 <b>Vieux-Château-St-André, Montagne-St-Emilion</b> Jean-Claude Berrouet, winemaker of top Moueix properties like Pétrus and Hosanna, makes this delightfully attractive Claret for earlier drinking at his home property. 2008–2012.	£79.00
13.	CS5541 <b>Château Puygueraud, Côtes de Francs</b> The home vineyard of Nicolas Thienpont, who makes some of the most sought-after wines in St Emilion. This is the best wine of its district offering unusual depth of flavour and personality for its price. 2011–2020.	£82.00
14.	CM10131 <b>Château Dutruch Grand Poujeaux, Moulis</b> This well-placed property with a good proportion of old vines, delivers lots of full satisfying flavour. Keep a minimum of five years. At its best after 10 or 12 years. 2011–2023.	£82.00
15.	CM10151 <b>Clos Floridène, Graves</b> This is the best wine yet for this property with perfumed aroma, rich middle palate and long lasting flavours. 2010–2018.	£82.00
16.	CB2411 <b>Château Mont Pérat, Premières Côtes de Bordeaux</b> Modern Claret in the best sense, with super-ripe intense and creamy palate, lovely perfume and length. 10% each of cabernets franc and sauvignon adds bouquet to 80% merlot richness. 2010–2020.	£89.00
17.	CS5411 <b>Vieux Clos St Emilion, St Emilion</b> A small property with old vines that makes utterly charming and delightful Claret from lots of ripe scented fruit. You can't go wrong with this. 2009–2015.	£89.00
18.	CM9931 <b>Château Picard, St Estèphe</b> The best sort of cabernet sauvignon-based (90%) Claret for keeping with lovely freshness, ripeness and length. Ready for 2010 but probably at best 2015 to 2022.	£92.00
19.	CS5521 <b>Château La Dauphine, Fronsac</b> Very appealing Claret with sweet scented fruit and weight. This will give much pleasure. 2010–2015.	£92.00
20.	CM10001 <b>Château Bellevue, Haut-Médoc</b> Big, rich-flavoured Claret in the best modern style with lots of ripe fruit but classy Médoc character too. The vineyard in Macau, near Cantemerle, uses 15% petit verdot and 52% cabernet sauvignon with the balance merlot. 2010–2017.	£95.00
21.	CM9981 <b>Château Bernadotte, Haut-Médoc</b> Elegant and stylish Claret with the charm of its big brother, Pichon-Lalande, in the same ownership. 2009–2015.	£95.00
22.	CM9821 <b>Château Charmail, Haut-Médoc</b> An absolute joy with bright ripe 'smiling' fruit and lovely balance and rich flavour. Olivier Sèze at his best. 2010–2018.	£99.00
23.	CS5461 <b>Château Chantalouette, Pomerol</b> Relatively forward style of Pomerol with soft plummy fruit and plenty of charm and freshness. 2009–2015.	£99.00
24.	CS5531 <b>Château Canon de Brem, Canon Fronsac</b> This very fine vineyard has proved its quality over many past vintages. With extra investment in the cellar, the 2005 is probably the finest vintage yet made here, with extra 'flesh' and charm as well as length of flavour. 2012–2022.	£105.00





Château d'Angludet



Château Batailley has one of the prettiest gardens in the Médoc



Barrels of the new vintage maturing

<i>ref</i>		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED <i>per dozen</i>
25.	CM9911 <b>Château Le Crock, St Estèphe</b> Very deep colour, bright rich fruit and lots of flavour with good grip. 60% cabernet sauvignon, 20% merlot, 15% cabernet franc and 5% petit verdot. 2012–2022.	£110.00
26.	CM10141 <b>Château Tour-de-Mons, Margaux</b> This property is returning to its old form with traditional elegant Margaux fruit. 2011–2018.	£110.00
27.	CS5651 <b>Château de Fonbel, St Emilion</b> This small property, owned by Alain Vauthier of Ausone, makes generous full-bodied St Emilion that has proved very popular with members, and it is particularly good this year. 2009–2016.	£110.00
28.	CM10111 <b>Château Beausite, St Estèphe</b> Philippe Castéja of Batailley has been steadily raising the quality of this well-sited vineyard. A complete wine with supple fruit, good body and structure. 2012–2022.	£112.00
29.	CM9961 <b>Hortevie, St Julien</b> When M. Pradère died, this excellent vineyard (there is no separate château hence the simpler name) was, to our delight, bought by Bruno Borie of Ducru-Beaucaillou, who has added extra finesse and polish to already excellent potential. 2012–2022.	£125.00
30.	CM9951 <b>Château Le Boscq, St Estèphe</b> A small quantity only was made this year but the quality is excellent. A polished, harmonious Claret made from ripe healthy fruit. 2010–2020.	£125.00
31.	CM9901 <b>Château Moulin-Riche, St Julien</b> Didier Cuvelier keeps this quite separate from Léoville-Poyferré, so it is not a second wine but made with the same expertise as his classed growth. 45% merlot, 55% cabernet sauvignon. A smart buy. 2010–2017.	£125.00
32.	CM10161 <b>Château Belgrave, Haut-Médoc</b> A 10-year wine, we thought, with all the elements in abundance but needing time to marry. Expect a fine, full cedary Claret from 2015–2025.	£135.00
33.	CM10011 <b>Château Meyney, St Estèphe</b> 20% petit verdot gives a lovely freshness and support to a very perfumed, ripe, rich Claret from this great vineyard next to Montrose. 2012–2022.	£140.00
34.	CS5591 <b>Château Grand-Corbin-Despagne, St Emilion</b> François Despagne is understandably delighted with his 2005 which has lovely balance, good 'centre', style and length on the palate. 2010–2018.	£145.00



Stainless steel fermenting vats used for the 2005



Château Ducru-Beaucaillou, home of the Borie family who also make the excellent second wine, *La Croix and Hortevie*

	<i>ref</i>		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED <i>per dozen</i>
35.	CS5611	<b>Château Moulinet, Pomerol</b> Sweet violet and cherry scented merlot with full fleshy flavour. Will be a most attractive bottle from 2008 to 2015.	£147.00
(M)	36. CM9811	<b>Château d'Angludet, Margaux</b> A gorgeous vintage from the Sichel family with perfumed aroma, generous rich, ripe fruit and lovely lift to the flavour. The only problem is that yields were lower. 2012–2025. <i>Magnums available.</i>	£155.00
37.	CM9851	<b>Château Chasse-Spleen, Moulis</b> Structure, body and finesse with less oak influence than in some vintages. A great success. Jean-Pierre Foubet said the 'assemblage' was easy because all the vats were so good. 2012–2025.	£155.00
38.	CM9991	<b>Château Monbrison, Margaux</b> Real Margaux perfume and elegance here but with firm backbone to support it. Lovely wine. Keep until 2013–2022.	£155.00
39.	CM9921	<b>Château Labégorce-Zédé, Margaux</b> The first proper vintage under new ownership is more international in style than before and with the same excellent core of fruit. 2009–2013.	£160.00
40.	CM10201	<b>Château Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc</b> The lowest yields for many years have produced a 'serious' Cantemerle with a rich, well-nourished flavour and sweet fruit as well as the property's usual charm. 2011–2022.	£160.00
(M)	41. CM9941	<b>Château Batailley, Pauillac</b> Batailley delivers full-bodied, well-structured flavour with an extra dimension of finesse and elegance in this vintage. Probably the best wine ever made here. A great buy. 2012–2025. <i>Magnums available.</i>	£175.00
42.	CM10171	<b>La Croix de Beaucaillou, St Julien</b> With expressive finely-scented aroma and rich imposing flavour, the second wine of Ducru-Beaucaillou is very much of classed-growth quality and a very good buy this year. 2013–2020.	£175.00
43.	CS5601	<b>Château Berliquet, St Emilion</b> Patrick Valette has produced probably the best Berliquet ever, rich and scented, well balanced yet powerful. 2012–2020.	£192.00
44.	CS5471	<b>Château Bourgneuf, Pomerol</b> A cracking vintage for this very well-sited property with lovely, ripe scented fruit and a rich, long-lasting flavour. Best drunk between 2013–2022.	£199.00

(M) indicates magnums available – see Order Form for prices

<i>ref</i>		IN-BOND PRICE, UK DELIVERED <i>per dozen</i>
45. CM10211	<b>Château Haut-Batailley, Pauillac</b> A higher percentage of cabernet (76%) than usual adds finesse, class and freshness. As ever, a lovely balanced Claret that wine-drinkers will enjoy from 2013–2022.	£210.00
46. CM10241	<b>Château Haut-Bages-Libéral, Pauillac</b> Vibrant and lively Pauillac with great purity of fruit. Will make a delightful bottle for 2012 to 2022.	£215.00
47. CM9971	<b>Château Duhart-Milon-Rothschild, Pauillac</b> Classic Pauillac with ripe, fresh cabernet fruit, but plenty in reserve and a long finish to the flavour which promises well. 2015–2025.	£260.00
48. CM10181	<b>Alter Ego de Palmer, Margaux</b> With its generous aroma of super-ripe fruit and rich seductive flavour, this blend of 57% merlot and 43% cabernet sauvignon will be great to drink from 2010 but has the structure to keep to 2018.	£270.00
<b>M</b> 49. CM10221	<b>Château La Lagune, Haut-Médoc</b> A superb vintage here producing rich, intense, fresh, beautifully balanced Claret. The drought reduced the quantity dramatically but the resulting concentration of sweet flavour is stunning. 2013–2025. <i>Magnums available.</i>	£280.00
50. CM10191	<b>Château Beychevelle, St Julien</b> Beychevelle's hallmark is its lovely bouquet and elegant stylish flavour. The 2005 has all this and extra depth besides. A very good buy. 2013–2025.	£285.00

### 2005 SAUTERNES IN-BOND

2005 is a great vintage for Sauternes. The grapes were in impeccable condition and at optimum ripeness with high sugar levels. The wines are enticingly luscious, rich and aromatic.

51. BW2791	<b>Château Liot, Barsac</b> Outside the more expensive classed growths, this looks like a best buy with good tensile sweetness and plenty of body. 2008–2015.	£115.00
<b>H</b> 52. BW2801	<b>Château Doisy-Daëne, Barsac</b> Wonderful floral aroma and great quality fruit. A real pudding wine of considerable richness but 'lift' too. 2010–2025. <i>Halves available.</i>	£210.00
53. BW2821	<b>Château de Rayne-Vigneau, Sauternes</b> Refreshing and delicious showing real quality from a great but underrated vineyard. 2010–2025.	£225.00
54. BW2761	<b>Château Clos Haut-Peyraguey, Sauternes</b> A lovely fruity and powerful Sauternes with luscious honeyed sweetness and body with balancing acidity. 2010–2025.	£240.00
55. BW2771	<b>Château Sigalas Rabaud, Sauternes</b> One of the great Sauternes vineyards, though quite small, with great intensity of flavour and quality. 2010–2025.	£250.00
56. BW2781	<b>Château La Tour Blanche, Sauternes</b> A great success in 2005: stylish, fine and luscious with a delightful bouquet. Relatively high proportion of sauvignon. 2010–2025.	£295.00
<b>H</b> 57. BW2751	<b>Château Rieussec, Sauternes</b> Hailed by everyone as a great success justifying its high price this year. Explosive multi-layered bouquet and luscious rich but vibrant palate. Great balance. 2020–2025. <i>Halves available.</i>	£400.00

**H** indicates halves available – see Order Form for prices

## MIXED CASES

### 58. Good Value Bordeaux Case 2005

*ref OC1686 at £79.00*

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

**Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc**  
**Château Dutruch-Grand-Poujeaux,  
Moulis**  
**Château Reynon,  
Premières Côtes de Bordeaux**  
**Vieux Clos St Emilion, St Emilion**

### 59. Old Friends Case 2005

*ref OC1696 at £159.00*

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

**Château d'Angludet, Margaux**  
**Château Batailley, Pauillac**  
**Château Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc**  
**Hortevie, St Julien**

### 60. Four Famous Communes Case 2005

*ref OC1706 at £260.00*

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

**Château Beychevelle, St Julien**  
**Château Bourgneuf, Pomerol**  
**Château Duhart-Milon-Rothschild,  
Pauillac**  
**Château La Lagune, Haut-Médoc**

### 61. Sauternes Case 2005

*ref OC1716 at £275.00*

*A 12-bottle case containing two bottles each  
of the following six sweet whites*

**Château Clos Haut-Peyraguey,  
Sauternes**  
**Château Doisy-Daëne, Barsac**  
**Château La Tour Blanche, Sauternes**  
**Château de Rayne Vigneau, Sauternes**  
**Château Rieussec, Sauternes**  
**Château Sigalas Rabaud, Sauternes**

This offer will close at **5pm, Tuesday 4th July, 2006**

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.



Registered as: The International Exhibition Co-operative Wine Society Limited,  
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