
An Opening Offer of 2009 Bordeaux

Orders by Website,
Post and Fax only
by 9pm, Monday 28th June 2010



Château Beaumont – balance, charm and class in 2009

A must-buy vintage

From the moment I first tasted the newly finished wines just after harvest, it was clear that 2009 was a thrilling vintage for Claret. Growers' faces were wreathed in smiles when we tasted in Pomerol, Pauillac and Pessac-Léognan. Everywhere there was a buzz of excitement. At that stage Christian Moueix, who does not exaggerate, was speaking of a finer modern mix of 1990 and 1989 or, perhaps, memories of 1947, which we both had drunk in bottle though obviously not at harvest. The factors that link these years are charm, depth of flavour and structure, good balance and the natural sweetness and bloom of healthy, ripe fruit. Each of those vintages made some truly exceptional wines. 2009 has all these virtues in abundance and class too.

Comparisons with earlier decades can mislead, however. The best growers nowadays take greater care in their vineyards to produce less volume but finer quality. They select more rigorously when they harvest, and in the cellar, and understand much better than they did 20 years ago how to vinify such wonderful material. It is clear that the 'personality' of 2009 differs from the firm, classic 2000 or bright, fresh attack of the 2005s, fabulous though that last vintage particularly is proving to be. We believe that the charm, balance and seductiveness of 2009s will make the best of them taste good at all stages of their development.

Immediately after harvest we decided to spend even more time than usual tasting and retasting at the châteaux with owners and winemakers in the spring, and to visit more properties too in lesser-known appellations as well as the more famous names. We also undertook many comparative tastings of samples to ensure we found the best for Wine Society members. In every vintage there are successes and disappointments and even the top châteaux found it was necessary to make a tough selection in the cellar.

A particularly rewarding and exciting aspect of 2009 is the outstanding quality that can be found in less well-known districts and properties. It is these wines, which will give best value and the most pleasure to wine drinkers, that are the heart of this first offer of the 2009 vintage. The quality of the cabernets in the great vineyards of the Médoc and also many of their humbler neighbours in St Estèphe and further north was exceptional, giving wines an unusual complexity and structure. St Estèphe and the Médoc are therefore well represented here. Pomerol was another appellation that excelled in 2009.



A second offer of a comprehensive selection of classed growths will follow when we have all the prices. There has been huge international interest in the vintage and particularly in the most famous names which we expect the Bordelais to exploit to the full with historically high opening prices. This is another reason why we feel that wine-drinkers who love good Claret should make the most of this first offer, which includes so many wonderfully good value wines.

The story of the year

2009 was in many ways a perfect summer for growing grapes in Bordeaux without the long, torrid, high temperatures of 2003 or the days of excessive heat in 2005, 1989 or 1990. There was some welcome rain in August and, apart from a short downpour on 19th and 20th of September in Pomerol and St-Emilion (which means early pickers were favoured), ideal weather at vintage. The light throughout the year was excellent and this helps explain the high level of sugar and ripeness in the grapes at harvest. The one drawback for those that were affected was a series of fierce hailstorms in May which cut a swathe through parts of St-Emilion, Entre-Deux-Mers and Margaux, in some cases drastically reducing the quantity of the future crop. The onset of *pourriture noble*, which is the key to greatness in Barsac and Sauternes, was rapid and abundant and some great sweet wines have been made and we include our favourites available in a mixed case and half-bottles too on page 7.

Sebastian Payne MW
Chief Wine Buyer

All the wines listed here are available on our website www.thewinesociety.com/openingoffer

This offer closes at **9pm, Monday 28th June, 2010**. For information regarding this offer after this date please e-mail memberservices@thewinesociety.com or telephone The Society on **01438 740222**.

Ref		In-bond price, UK delivered, per dozen
1. CM13651	Château Tour Saint-Bonnet, Médoc Full-bodied Claret which has provided solid value again as it did in 2005. You should wait four years but it will keep well. 2013–2020.	£79
2. CB3291	Nectar de la Grave, Côtes de Bourg The cream of a very good crop at the Bassereau's popular property of de la Grave. Lovely bright perfume and fruit and generous well-structured flavour. They have never made a better wine. 2013–2020.	£79
 3. CM13661	Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc This has been a property to follow for those who like traditional Claret and it keeps those virtues in 2009 while adding extra ripeness and suppleness at a very fair price. 2014–2022. Magnums available.	£90
4. CB3301	Château Reynon, Premières Côtes de Bordeaux The Dubourdieu's nurture their home property vineyard with as much care as they do their Sauternes, picking the grapes in several stages as they ripen, so they only harvest healthy ripened fruit and it shows in the lovely texture of their wine. 2012–2017.	£90
5. CS7321	Château Moncets, Lalande-de-Pomerol* This vineyard is well-placed on the border with Pomerol proper and its innate quality shows through in a full, well-structured wine with length of flavour. 2013–2019.	£90
6. CS7461	Château La Couronne, St-Emilion* A very polished well-rounded, full-flavoured and approachable St-Emilion in the best modern style. 2013–2019.	£90
7. CB3311	Château Bel Air Perponcher, Grand Vin Bordeaux* The Despaigne family shine like a beacon in Entre-Deux-Mers constantly striving to improve and taking more care of their vines than some classed growths. This is spicy, rich Claret which fills the mouth with wonderful ripe fruit. 72% merlot, 28% cabernet sauvignon aged in new oak barrels. 2013–2018.	£90
8. CM13671	Château Caronne Sainte-Gemme, Haut-Médoc François Nony has been repaid for his efforts with a stunningly good 2009. His vineyard, only a short walk from Gruaud-Larose in St Julien, has a track record of doing well in dry years. Lovely full, fragrant Claret. 2014–2022.	£90

- | Ref | | In-bond price,
UK delivered, per dozen |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| M H 9. CM13681 | Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc*
Winemaker Etienne Priou's face was wreathed in smiles when we tasted his last five vintages because he knew the new 2009 was the best of all. His only problem is that he did not make enough. With its lovely balance, charm and touch of class this remains an outstanding buy for wine drinkers. 2013–2020. Magnums and halves available. | £90 |
| 10. CS7341 | Château du Courlat, Cuvée Jean Baptiste, Lussac-St-Emilion
The best cuvée of a well-managed property that excels in warm dry years like 2009. Lovely ripe fruit, 100% merlot, with freshness too. Will keep very well. 2014–2022. | £95 |
| 11. CB3321 | Château Le Conseiller, Bordeaux Supérieur
With its plump, ripe, seductively fragrant fruit, this tastes like a good little Pomerol, and is a great tribute to owner Jean-Philippe Janoueix. 100% merlot. 2012–2017. | £95 |
| 12. CM14051 | Château Fourcas-Borie, Lustrac
Since the Borie family of Ducru-Beaucaillou took over this property, previously called Fourcas-Dumont, they have made a good wine even better. Lovely bright, fresh fruit and well-defined palate from 70% merlot, 15% each cabernet sauvignon and petit verdot. 2013–2020. | £98 |
| 13. CB3331 | Madame Château de Pitray, Côtes de Castillon
Ripe and succulent with splendid richness and depth, this is a stunning success and finer than many St-Emilions at more than twice the price. We tasted a 1990 Pitray to celebrate, which is now quite delicious, but this will be finer still. 2013–2020. | £105 |
| 14. CM13701 | Clos Floridène, Graves
With an unusually high proportion of cabernet sauvignon, 65%, which suits the limestone soil here, and in a vintage when cabernet ripened so well, this is a particular success for Denis Dubourdieu. Finely scented, cassis fruit. Great length. 2013–2020. | £105 |
| 15. CM13691 | Château Dutruch Grand Poujeaux, Moulis*
Rich, full and spicy with good complexity. Jean Baptiste Cordonnier says they profited from the gentle slow maturation of the grapes to be able to pick each plot at perfect ripeness. Real quality for the price. 2014–2025. | £110 |
| 16. CB3341 | Château Mont-Pérat, Premières Côtes de Bordeaux
Generously fruity, rich flavour with finesse and backbone. This is Thibault Despagne's home property and probably the finest wine of its district. 80% merlot. 2013–2020. | £110 |
| 17. CS7351 | Château Puy-Blanquet, St-Emilion*
Attractively fresh rounded palate, full of charm. Relatively early maturing but nonetheless good for that. 2012–2019. | £110 |
| 18. CM13721 | Château Picard, St Estèphe
Unusual in St Estèphe in being made with 90% cabernet sauvignon, this is a classic Claret for keeping with deep intense fruit and class. An ideal vintage for such a wine. 2017–2025. | £110 |
| 19. CS7361 | Vieux Clos St-Emilion, St-Emilion*
This small property, owned by a nursery man who has well-aged vines, makes ripe, fresh and fragrant Claret that will give much pleasure. 2012–2019. | £115 |
| 20. CM13711 | Château Charmail, Haut-Médoc
Wonderfully full-bodied Claret with a core of ripe fruit. Olivier Sèze waited 15 days between picking his merlot and cabernet sauvignon to achieve complete ripeness because the weather was perfect. Possibly his best ever vintage. 2014–2020. | £135 |

H indicates half bottles available **M** indicates magnums available – see order form for prices

* These wines feature in mixed cases on page 7

Ref		In-bond price, UK delivered	
		per six	per dozen
21.	CS7381 Château Grand Barrail Lamarzelle Figeac, St-Emilion* A small vineyard with a very long name, across the road from Figeac, this made a delicious, succulent, elegant wine with good length. 65% merlot and 35% cabernet franc explain its finesse. 2014–2022.	-	£140
22.	CS7371 Château de la Dauphine, Fronsac No expense is spared at this estate, the finest of its appellation in our view, that now incorporates Canon de Brem, which members have followed wisely over many years. Real bloom and finesse with a well-balanced, stylish palate. 2015–2025.	-	£145
23.	CM14071 Château Beau-Site, St Estèphe There is a lovely freshness to balance the ripe plummy fruit. A very attractive vintage for this popular property owned and run by the Batailley team. 2014–2025.	-	£145
24.	CM13731 Château Le Boscq, St Estèphe* Each time we tasted this, we loved its balance of freshness, ripe fruit and structure. The finest wine that has been made at this excellent vineyard eclipsing in quality several other better-known names. 2015–2025.	-	£152
25.	CM13751 Hortevie, St Julien* Many members already know the quality of this vineyard which lies across the road from Ducru-Beaucaillou who now own it and who have added extra polish and finesse. Lovely cedary bouquet and full, complex palate. No château in the title because there is no château. A delicious 1990 tasted recently reminded us just how well these wines age in good years. 2016–2025.	-	£170
26.	CM13741 Château Le Crock, St Estèphe Didier Cuvelier, owner of Léoville-Poyferré, is understandably delighted this year with his St Estèphe property next to Cos d'Estournel. It's a cracker with splendid depth of flavour and keeping qualities. 2017–2030.	£88	-
27.	CM13771 Château Bouscaut, Pessac-Léognan Generously full and ripe in this super-charged vintage with 7% old-vine malbec adding individuality and freshness. This has been very much a property to follow in recent vintages. 2015–2025.	-	£180
28.	CM13761 Château Moulin-Riche, St Julien Ripe, round and full with 7% exceptional petit verdot contributing freshness to 65% cabernet sauvignon and 28% merlot. The vineyard, owned by the Cuveliers of Léoville-Poyferré, is in the north-west of St Julien, between Gloria and Batailley. 2015–2024.	-	£185
29.	CB3391 Château d'Aiguilhe, Côtes de Castillon Sumptuous, full and seductive wine with generous flavour. From Stephan von Neipperg's Canon la Gaffelière stable and hugely impressive for its appellation. 2013–2020.	-	£185
30.	CM13781 Château Belgrave, Haut-Médoc One of the bargain classed-growths today, this property, next to Lagrange St Julien, which slipped under the radar for so many years, has been totally transformed in the last 15 years and is now making splendid class, stylish and long-living Claret. 2017–2030.	£95	-
31.	CS7391 Château L'Enclos, Pomerol Relatively forward, fragrant with silky fruit and real charm. New owners have done an excellent job. 2013–2021.	£95	-
32.	CS7451 Château Grand Corbin-Despaigne, St-Emilion François Despaigne has been making extremely good Claret by taking great care of his vines. Never better than this 2009 which has the body and richness of the year but also the potential to age gracefully and well quite long term, and it is very fairly priced. 2015–2030.	-	£210

Ref		In-bond price, UK delivered per six	per dozen
33. CM14061	Château Poujeaux, Moulis The Cuvelier family of Clos Fourtet (not to be confused with the owners of Léoville-Poyferré) have raised the quality of this property. It was always well structured but now has extra roundness and charm to flesh it out. Excellent this year. 2016–2030.	-	£210
M H 34. CM13821	Ségla, Margaux The second wine of Rauzan-Ségla, so exceptional in 2009, is unusually rich and full and a highly recommended alternative to the grand vin. Real class here. 2015–2025. Magnums and halves available.	-	£225
35. CM13791	Château d'Angludet, Margaux* A splendid, ripe, sweetly fruity, balanced and full-tasting Claret to help celebrate next year's half century of Sichels at Angludet. The only problem was they made 30% less wine than usual. 2016–2030.	£113	-
36. CM13881	Château Ferrière, Margaux The 2005 and 2000 vintages of this property are showing extremely well and we are delighted to include this small property's wine en-primeur for the first time with its superb 2009. Aromatic, rich, full of flavour and charm. 2017–2030.	£125	-
37. CS7401	Château Bourgneuf, Pomerol This property on the plateau makes well-structured Pomerols that deserve keeping. Full, with good 'middle' palate and depth to the flavour. 2018–2030.	£130	-
M H 38. CM13841	Château Batailley, Pauillac* Ripe and fragrant with excellent structure, this is a remarkable success from a popular property whose consistently good wines have moved up a notch in quality since 2002. 2020–2035. Magnums and halves available.	-	£265
39. CS7411	Clos du Clocher, Pomerol Splendidly full with velvety texture. With part of the vineyard next to Vieux-Certan and part next to Trotanoy, this has considerable class. 2018–2030.	£133	-
H 40. CS7431	Château du Domaine de l'Eglise, Pomerol Well-rounded but firm, fragrant flavour with good structure. A Pomerol with 96% merlot which needs five years minimum and will last for well over 20 years without a problem. Halves available. 2014–2030.	-	£280
41. CS7421	Château La Serre, St-Emilion With its naturally sweet, ripe fruit and charm, this is a Claret that will give pleasure relatively soon. 2014–2024.	-	£290
42. CM13871	Château du Tertre, Margaux Immediately generous fragrant fruit is evident. This property is planted with the highest percentage of cabernet franc in the Médoc (15% in this wine) giving it special charm and approachability. 2014–2024.	£145	-
43. CS7441	Château Rouget, Pomerol This has been a property to watch since new owners with Burgundian expertise took over in the early 1990s. A sumptuous, flattering and fragrant Claret, and it does have affinities with good Burgundy. 2015–2025.	-	£325
44. CM14081	Château Duhart-Milon Rothschild, Pauillac The Asian appetite for all wines from the Lafite Rothschild estate has caused a dramatic increase in the price of this wine. The many members who bought earlier vintages were wise. However, the team has made an excellent 2009: a classic full Pauillac with good middle palate and length deserving its success. 2020–2035.	£270	-

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* These wines feature in mixed cases on page 7

SAUTERNES AND BARSAC

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| <p>H 45. BW3681 Château Cantegril, Barsac*
A stunning result, bursting with ripe, sweet, succulent fruit and generous flavour. Great balance for a wine so rich. The property is run by Denis Dubourdieu (right). Fantastic quality for the price. A snip. 2012–2024. Halves available.</p> |  | <p>- £155</p> |
| <p>H 46. BW3731 Cyrès de Climens, Barsac*
In our view there is no finer wine produced in Barsac and Sauternes than Climens, and in 2009 when the standard of their whole crop was so high, this second wine is a very good buy. Luscious and fine. 2013–2022. Halves available.</p> | | <p>- £210</p> |
| <p>H 47. BW3701 Château Doisy-Védrines, Barsac*
Doisy-Védrines traditionally makes rich full-bodied pudding wine, and this year the vibrancy and class show brilliantly too. A great success. 2013–2030. Halves available.</p> | | <p>- £240</p> |
| <p>H 48. BW3691 Château Doisy-Daëne, Barsac*
Seductively liquorous and creamy yet with lovely 'lift'. A joy. The family property of Denis Dubourdieu who has taught the Bordelais so much about vineyard care and white wine. An excellent buy. 2013–2030. Halves available.</p> | | <p>- £305</p> |
| <p>49. BW3711 Château de Rayne Vigneau, Sauternes*
Local reputation and wonderful old vintages prove this to be one of the great Sauternes vineyards. After a number of lighter years, this, with 28% sauvignon, is wonderfully rich yet fresh with great length and class. 2015–2035.</p> | | <p>£155 -</p> |
| <p>H 50. BW3721 Clos Haut-Peyraguey, Sauternes*
This small but outstanding property has made its finest wine since the gorgeous 2001 that so many members purchased from us. Silky and unctuously rich with magical lightness of touch too. A rewarding buy. 2014–2035. Halves available.</p> | | <p>- £340</p> |
| <p>H 51. BW3741 Château Sigalas-Rabaud, Sauternes*
This will make splendid, generous long-living Sauternes with lovely apricot fruit, silky texture and long-lasting flavour. 2014–2035. Halves available.</p> | | <p>£170 -</p> |
| <p>H 52. BW3751 Château Guiraud, Sauternes*
The finest Guiraud for many years benefitting from the extra investment of new owners. 150 pickers were on hand to pick at the optimum moment with the rapid onset of perfect <i>pourriture noble</i> this year. 35% sauvignon gives wonderful fragrance to a full and sumptuously liquorous Sauternes. 2014–2035. Halves available.</p> | | <p>£183 -</p> |
| <p>H 53. BW3761 Château La Tour Blanche, Sauternes*
Exotic, seductive super-fragrant Sauternes with great potential for the future. From 85% semillon, 15% sauvignon and 5% muscadelle. 2015–2035. Halves available.</p> | | <p>£220 -</p> |
| <p>H 54. BW3781 Château Rieussec, Sauternes*
Exceedingly rich, liquorous and exciting with many-faceted honeyed bouquet and complex, well-defined palate. An outstanding vintage here. 2014–2035. Halves available.</p> | | <p>£320 -</p> |
| <p>55. BW3771 Château Suduiraut, Sauternes
Luscious, long, rich and complex. Undoubtedly a splendid result but looking ambitiously priced compared with previous vintages. 2015–2035.</p> | | <p>£320 -</p> |

H indicates half bottles available * These wines feature in mixed cases on page 7

MIXED CASES

56. 2009 AFFORDABLE CLARET

Drinking window: 2014–2018 †

ref **OC2516** at **£99**

A 12-bottle case containing three bottles each of the following four red wines:

Château Bel-Air Perponcher,
Grand Vin Bordeaux

Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc

Château Dutruch Grand Poujeaux, Moulis

Château Moncets, Lalande-de-Pomerol

57. 2009 ST-EMILIONS

Drinking window: 2014–2019 †

ref **OC2526** at **£118**

A 12-bottle case containing three bottles each of the following four red wines:

Château Puy-Blanquet, St-Emilion

Vieux Clos St-Emilion, St-Emilion

Château La Couronne, St-Emilion

Château Grand Barrail Lamarzelle Figeac,
St-Emilion

58. 2009 OLD FAVOURITES

Drinking window: 2020–2025 †

ref **OC2536** at **£207**

A 12-bottle case containing three bottles each of the following four red wines:

Château d'Angludet, Margaux

Château Batailley, Pauillac

Château Le Boscq, St Estèphe

Hortevie, St Julien

59. 2009 SAUTERNES AND BARSAC CASE

Drinking window: 2015–2024 †

ref **OC2556** at **£145**

A six-bottle case containing one bottle each of the following six white wines:

Château Cantegril, Barsac

Château Doisy-Védrines, Barsac

Château Doisy-Daëne, Barsac

Château de Rayne Vigneau, Sauternes

Clos Haut-Peyraguey, Sauternes

Château Sigalas-Rabaud, Sauternes

60. 2009 SAUTERNES AND BARSAC HALF-BOTTLE CASE

Drinking window: 2015–2022 †

ref **OC2566** at **£203**

A 12-half-bottle case containing two bottles each of the following six white wines:

Cyprès de Climens, Barsac

Clos Haut-Peyraguey, Sauternes

Château Sigalas-Rabaud, Sauternes

Château Guiraud, Sauternes

Château La Tour Blanche, Sauternes

Château Rieussec, Sauternes



Château de Pitray – splendid richness and depth in 2009

† Drink dates for these mixed cases refer to the period when all the wines will be at their peak. Please refer to the individual wine for its recommended drink date.

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/openingoffer. You will be required to log in with your password to place an order. If you need a new password visit www.thewinesociety.com/forgottenpassword. Orders need to arrive at Stevenage by **9pm, Monday 28th June, 2010** and will be processed thereafter. Members whose orders have been received by this date will receive confirmation of their purchase by 22nd July, 2010 at the latest. Members whose orders have been received after this time will receive notification by 12th August, 2010.

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 and click on 'My Account' then 'Contact Preferences'.

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.

If demand exceeds supply

The Society has a long relationship with many of the growers in this offer and access to good quantities of wine. It is possible however that demand may exceed supply for individual wines, in which case we will share out (as far as is practical) the available stock equally amongst ordering members. If this still does not allow every member to have some wine, then as a final resort we divide members into groups depending on their level of support for The Society (quantity of wine bought, spend, orders placed etc). Members who have given greater support to The Society will have a better chance (but no certainty) of being allocated wine, and those who have given less support will have a lesser chance (but still a chance). The Society will offer a similar wine as a substitute if the original choice cannot be provided, or members may nominate their own substitute when ordering. Doing so will not lessen the chance of receiving the original wine.

Members' Reserves

The Society's Members' Reserves is a purpose-built, temperature-controlled facility offering members access to optimum storage conditions. The annual rental charge (currently £7.92 per dozen if paid by direct debit, £8.40 if not) includes VAT and insurance at replacement value. Any wine bought from The Society, by the unmixed or pre-mixed dozen, may be added or removed at any time. Members using the facility receive an annual account which lists wines held, along with The Society's recommended drinking dates for each.

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 £20.25 duty per 12 75cl-bottle case, £10.13 per six-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 summer 2012.**
- 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 or 6 bottles as indicated.
- Please note that these wines cannot be collected from our showroom in Montreuil.

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

This offer will close at **9pm, Monday, 28th June 2010.**

For information regarding this offer after this date please e-mail memberservices@thewinesociety.com or telephone Member Services on **01438 740222**.

The Society's Guarantee

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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