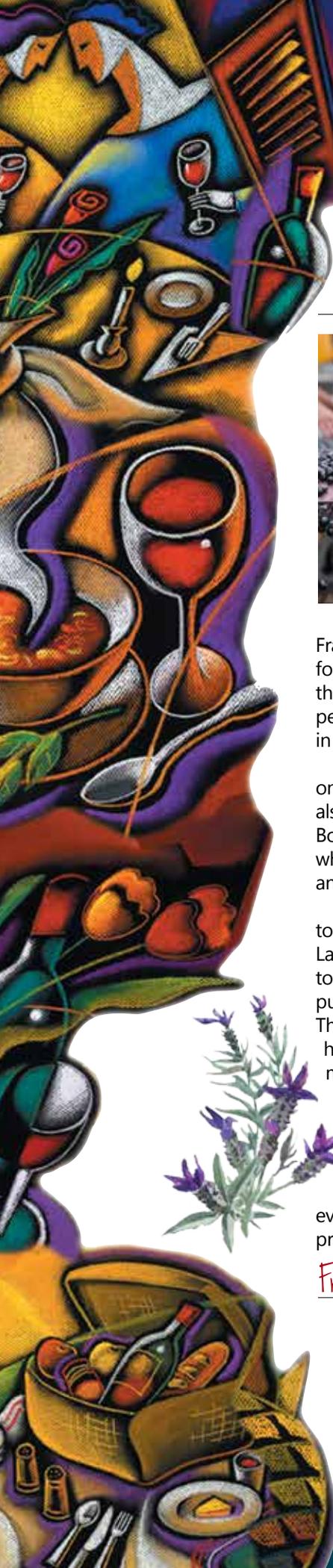


Taste the Adventure!

Bordeaux, France





The French wine growing region of Bordeaux was, is, and always will be the cornerstone of great French wine production, with a history spanning nearly 2,000 years and a reputation for the most collectible wines in the world.



One of the most important, prestigious, and famous wine regions in the world, and certainly in France, Bordeaux, with its many châteaux and renowned 1855 Classification system, is a leading destination for wine lovers, as well as the bedrock of the fine wine market and a benchmark for winemakers around the world. The history of the Bordeaux wine region dates back to the ancient Romans who were the first people to cultivate, plant vineyards and produce wines here. The Romans took over the Bordeaux area in 60 BC and their influence forever altered the landscape of the incredible Bordeaux we know today.

Early on, it was discovered that Bordeaux was perfect for cultivating grapes and making wine. Not only did the region offer the ideal combination of the right soils and marine climate, but Bordeaux was also located next to the Gironde River, which made transportation and trade of the wines fairly easy. Once Bordeaux wine was discovered (and praised) by British wine lovers, the trade expanded significantly, and when Dutch engineers drained the marshes and swamps that still covered much of Bordeaux, production and exportation increased even more.

By the late 1600's, specific Bordeaux regions and brands began developing, allowing consumers to start selecting vineyards or appellations that they preferred. Big names including Haut Brion, Margaux, Lafite and Latour were among the first to emerge and are still among the most heralded estates worldwide today. Perhaps the most significant year in Bordeaux history was in 1855 though, when Napoleon III put the 1855 Classification in place, ranking the châteaux by quality and presenting lists of First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Growths. The response immediately increased the demand for consumers to have the very best classified wines. This ranking system still influences the wine market today, and has made Bordeaux wines the most collectible in the world.

Bordeaux naturally evolved to include two main regions - the Left Bank and Right Bank. The Left Bank, located on the southwest side of the Gironde River, and the Right Bank, located on the northeast side. While the Left Bank is best known for its Cabernet Sauvignon, the Right Bank is more Merlot and Cabernet Franc dominant.

Today's Bordeaux wines are better than ever (and the top tier wines are more expensive than ever), making them among the most sought-after and popular wines in the world. We are happy to present this historic winegrowing region and country with our International Wine Club members. Enjoy!

France: Fun Facts!

- The French invented the term, 'terroir.' Defined as 'the environmental conditions, especially soil and climate, in which grapes are grown and that give a wine its unique flavor and aroma,' *terroir* was coined by the French when they discovered that wine expresses a specific quality relative to its geographical place of growth.
- France produces approximately 8 billion bottles of wine each year, making it the leading producer of wine in the world.
- The major wine regions of France include Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne, the Loire Valley, the Rhône Valley, and Alsace.



Region Spotlight: Lalande de Pomerol - Bordeaux, France

This month's featured French wines come from the Lalande de Pomerol appellation, located on the Right Bank of Bordeaux, France. The esteemed region lies just to the north of Pomerol and west of Saint Émilion, separated by the Barbanne stream. Rivers are of great significance in this part of Bordeaux as they define appellation boundaries, moderating the climate, and dictating the make-up of the region's soils.

In Lalande de Pomerol, the wines are made predominantly from Merlot, but may also contain Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. Lalande de Pomerol's wines are characteristically approachable, making them very popular in the modern marketplace. The two main villages of the appellation are Lalande de Pomerol and Néac.

The appellation wasn't officially designated as an AOC until 1954. Today, close to 200 châteaux produce wine in Lalande de Pomerol and about 2,800 acres of vineyards are currently planted here.



Featured French Wineries:

Chateau de Chambrun & Chateau Moncets



At the crossroads of Pomerol and Saint Émilion appellations in the heart of Bordeaux, France, lie a pair of historic vineyards, Château de Chambrun and Château Moncets, each nestled within the boutique Lalande de Pomerol appellation. Overseen by a young, dynamic and experienced winemaking team, these estates are producing a

distinctively 'new wave' style of Bordeaux wine, with vigor and freshness of authentic fruit that's catching the attention and praise of some of the world's top wine writers and publications.

The first of the estates, Château Moncets, was initially created in 1770 and bears the name of the General Moncets (Napoleon III's general) who bought it in 1872. Many years later, in 2012, Château Moncets was purchased by a French family who completely renovated and rehabilitated the property.

The second estate, Château de Chambrun was established between the World Wars by the Cholet family, when it was known as 'Clos de Chambrun,' a name originating from one of the plots called 'Champ Brun' or 'Brown Field' in English. The property changed ownership a couple of times until 2015 when it was acquired by that same French family who purchased Château Moncets just three years prior. Integrating Château de Chambrun with Château Moncets marked a new beginning, to elevate both estates to produce world-class fruit and craft premium wines at the top of their Lalande de Pomerol appellation.

The team behind this duo of estates includes Managing Director Julien Noël, Cellar Master Bruno Chaminade, and Vineyard Manager Romuald Hébrard. Together, they are breathing new life into these historic properties, making significant improvements in the winery as well as in the vineyards, including beginning the process of gaining organic farming certification. They are also assisted by the world famous oenologist Michel Rolland.

We are proud to present this award-winning Bordeaux winery to our International Wine Club members. Enjoy!



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shipment of wines
for just \$39!

Taste the Adventure!

Our unique "Adventure Package" takes you beyond the wines to experience delectable selections of imported gourmet treats from the featured country. We take the time to search out regional delights to pair with the wines. All products are exclusive imports that represent the wine region along with the local culture.

*Due to limited quantities, some products may be substituted for a product of equal value and quality.

Featured French Wines

 **INSTANT Membership Rewards Pricing***
Save 19% to 35% off Winery Retail prices!



Château Moncets 2016 Lalande de Pomerol

Lalande de Pomerol, Bordeaux, France

A blend of 86% Merlot and 14% Cabernet Franc, the Château Moncets 2016 Lalande de Pomerol comes from the winery's oldest vineyard, which was first created in 1770 and bears the name of the General Moncets (Napoleon III's general) who bought it in 1872. This wine is beautifully structured with aromas and flavors of red plums, blackberry fruits and spice from the oak aging. Plush, silky and rich, this concentrated wine is full-bodied with ripe tannins that soften and linger on the finish. Aged 18 months in oak. Enjoy!

92 POINTS - James Suckling

91 POINTS - Wine Enthusiast magazine

GOLD MEDAL - Concours Mondial de Bruxelles 2020

Imported Exclusively by Gold Medal Wine Club

Winery Retail Price \$34.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
Member Price:	\$29.00	\$27.33	\$26.50



Château de Chambrun 2016 Lalande de Pomerol

Lalande de Pomerol, Bordeaux, France

The Château de Chambrun 2016 Lalande de Pomerol is a Red Bordeaux Blend of 69% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc, and 6% Cabernet Sauvignon from the Château de Chambrun vineyard. A well-balanced Bordeaux Blend, this wine is ripe and smooth with aromas of dark berries, flowers and blanched almonds. The palate offers a full body, firm and silky tannins, a velvety soft texture, and flavors of black currants that are lifted by bright acidity, creating a nice freshness to the wine. Aged 18 months in oak. Enjoy!

92 POINTS - Wine Enthusiast magazine

90 POINTS - James Suckling

Imported Exclusively by Gold Medal Wine Club

Winery Retail Price \$39.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
Member Price:	\$34.00	\$32.33	\$31.50



Château de Chambrun 2019 Rosé

Lalande de Pomerol, Bordeaux, France

The Château de Chambrun 2019 Rosé was crafted from a high quality Cabernet Franc plot at the Château de Chambrun vineyard. With this fresh and elegant bone-dry Rosé, the winery showcases the famous red wine terroir of Lalande de Pomerol in a completely different way. On the nose, intense strawberry and raspberry aromas are supported by a natural freshness that enlivens the senses. The palate is well balanced with fresh red fruit flavors and a touch of acidity. Aged 4 months in stainless steel tanks. 100% Cabernet Franc. Enjoy!

GOLD MEDAL SPECIAL SELECTION

Imported Exclusively by Gold Medal Wine Club

Winery Retail Price \$19.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
Member Price:	\$16.00	\$14.33	\$13.50

*Effective per bottle prices after Membership Rewards discount is applied at checkout. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included in above prices. Membership Rewards does not apply to Sale or Special-Offer Wines. Due to limited quantities, some wines may be substituted for a different vintage or wine of equal value and quality.



The International Wine Club features exclusively imported hard-to-find wines of the world strictly for members of the Gold Medal Wine Club.