



#### **Bordeaux 2010 - Bartons, GPL, SHLs....**

Today saw another deluge of releases. Two of the most classic wines in Bordeaux, **Leoville Barton** and **Grand Puy Lacoste** are majestic offerings that will require ample cellaring and will age well for many decades. Neal Martin in particular appreciates this style and he has awarded them both massive ratings, similar to those of the First Growths! It would be difficult to find a wine of higher quality at the Grand Puy Lacoste price. **Langoa Barton** shows a little more polish but remains an excellent traditional Bordeaux.

**Smith Haut Lafitte** vies for top spot in Pessac-Leognan with the best rouge and blanc I have tasted from the chateau. The 2010s are phenomenally pure, elegant and rich and all the critics seem to agree.

**La Pointe**, along with Croix de Gay, is the best value Pomerol I tasted. The property has undergone a great rejuvenation and Neal Martin, a Pomerol expert, really appreciates the 2010 giving it 92-94.

Finally, **Barde Haut** is made in the more flamboyant, modern ilk and remains one of the best value buys of the vintage.

*'It is almost painful to tell the story of another great vintage in Bordeaux... this news is either tragic or mythical, but I have tasted enough wines from 2005, 2009 and 2010 to realize that these may be the three greatest Bordeaux vintages I have tasted in my career'* Robert Parker

Please a full list [here](#).

#### **Leoville Barton, St Julien 2010 - R883.32**

*The 2010 Leoville Barton was almost impossible to evaluate because of its highly extracted, masculine, muscular style. However, it exhibits a dense purple color along with surprising amounts of oak, excruciatingly painful tannin levels, good acidity and a massive mouthfeel. One of the biggest, most backward wines of the vintage, forget it for a decade and drink it over the following 30+ years. Unfortunately, I have passed the age where it makes sense to buy a wine such as this. - RP 91-93+, JR 17.5+, WS 94-97, Dec 18½, NM 96-98, RPP 92-94*

#### **Grand Puy Lacoste, Pauillac 2010 - R706.66**

*The greatest Grand Puy Lacoste since the 2005, 2000 and 1990, the fabulous 2010 reveals all the hallmarks of this estate. It boasts a dense purple color along with classic notes of creme de cassis, blueberries, blackberries, crushed rocks and flowers, sweet tannin and an exceptionally full-bodied and multilayered mouthfeel as well as a boatload of tannin. Cellar it for a decade and drink it over the following three decades. Proprietor Xavier Borie's 2010 recalls the 2005. - RP 93-95, JR 17, WS 92-94 Dec 18, NM 97-99, RPP 92-94*

#### **La Pointe, Pomerol 2010 - R300.45**

*The 2010 is a strong effort from this historically underachieving Pomerol thanks in part to the owners hiring well-known consultant Hubert de Bouard. A blend of 84% Merlot and 16% Cabernet Franc that hit 14% natural alcohol reveals copious notes of sweet caramel, smoke, black cherry liqueur, Asian plum sauce and subtle background oak. Opaque ruby/purple-colored, medium to full-bodied and well-endowed it should drink nicely for 10-15+ years. - RP 89-91, NM 92-94, JR 16, Dec 16.5, WS 91-94, RPP 90-92*

#### **Barde Haut, St Emilion 2010 - R258.51**

*Readers looking for an exuberant, nearly flamboyant, exceptionally well-made St-Emilion should check out this effort from the Garcin family, which has done such a fabulous job with their Graves, Haut-Bergey, and Pomerol, Clos l'Eglise. A blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc from a beautifully situated vineyard near Troplong Mondot and Trottevielle, this cuvee reveals terrific fruit on the attack, mid-palate and finish. Abundant cassis and black cherry characteristics are presented in a juicy, savory, broadly textured style. The vintage's freshness, precision and zesty acids give uplift to a big, opulent, fleshy wine. Consume it over the next decade or more. RP 91-94, NM 91-93, JS 91-92, JR 14.5, Dec 17, WS 90-93*

#### **Langoa Barton, St Julien 2010 - R538.14**

*Softer than I expected given the highly extracted, exceptionally tannic wines routinely produced by proprietor Anthony Barton, the oaky, powerfully concentrated, dense 2010 Langoa Barton possesses silky, well-integrated tannins. Nevertheless, the level of wood and the primary nature of the black currant and black cherry fruit suggest 7-8 years of cellaring will be essential. This is a 30-year wine. - RP 90-92, JR 17.5, WS 92-95 Dec 18, NM 92-94, RPP 91-93,*

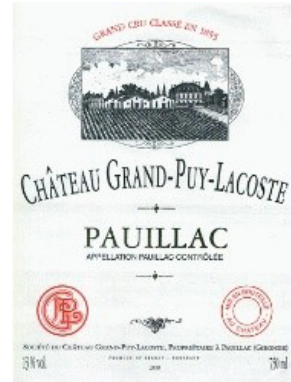
#### **Smith Haut Lafitte, Pessac Leognan 2010 R 925.39**

*A qualitative home run, right up there with the profound 2005 and more opulent 2009, Smith-Haut-Lafitte has turned in a remarkable performance in this vintage, but then again, so have many other chateaux. A blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and the rest Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, the wine has an inky/purple color and an extraordinary nose of graphite,*

blackberries, cassis, licorice, smoke, and camphor. The unbelievable skyscraper-like texture, stunning purity, and formidable intensity make for a remarkably rich, long, full-bodied wine that is classic Graves, but at the same time a staggering 2010. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2035+. - **RP 95-97, JR 17, WS 93-96, Dec 18, RPP 96-98**

**Smith Haut Lafitte Blanc, Pessac Leognan R 797.44**

Another phenomenal wine from the Cathiards, this rich 2010 exhibits lemon custard, melon, tropical fruit and a touch of smoky oak. It should last 20+ years - **RP 92-95, JR 17, WS 92-95, RPP 93-96, Dec 18**



**Terms and Conditions:**

- Wines are sold in Rands at the current Rand/Euro exchange rate.
  - Wines are sold exclusive VAT and shipping.
  - Shipping (estimated at R20-R50 per bottle) and VAT on the wine is payable on landing in 2013
  - Payment is required on invoice via EFT. Credit Card payments carry a 3.5% surcharge.
  - The minimum order per wine is a 6-bottle case
  - Cases are available in 6 x 750ml, 12 x 750ml, 12 x 375ml, 24 x 375ml or 6 x 1500ml sizes.
  - Bottles unless otherwise stated are standard in 750ml format. 375ml, 1500ml or 3000ml bottles carry a small surcharge
- RP - Robert Parker, JR - Jancis Robinson, NM - Neal Martin, JS - James Suckling, Dec - Decanter Magazine, WS - James Molesworth (Wine Spectator) RPP - Roland Peter Peens (Wine Cellar)  
Please phone 021 448 4105 or reply to this email to order.

Vinous Regards  
Roland and the Wine Cellar team



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