



What to look for in the upcoming Bordeaux Release

Rare finds, good values and Barb's picks

BC Liquor Stores will hold its annual Bordeaux release on Saturday, September 29, 2018 at 30 stores across the province. We've identified some of the best collectibles and bargains to be had.

MOST RARE: A handful of the most sought-after wines of the region that will develop and improve with years of cellaring.

Château Haut-Brion Pessac-Léognan 2015 \$1200

Because of its extremely high quality, Haut-Brion was the only Château outside the Médoc to be included in the 1855 Classification of the region.

"A blend of 50% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, the medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2015 Haut-Brion is reticent to begin, languidly revealing crushed black cherries, ripe black plums and wild blueberries with sparks of cinnamon stick, cloves, nutmeg, espresso, unsmoked cigars, tapenade, crushed rocks and lavender. The full-bodied palate possesses wonderfully complementary contrasts of bold black and blue fruit richness and delicately nuanced cherry fruit, baking spices and floral accents, strutting ripe, finely pixelated tannins and seamless acidity that is placed firmly in the background, finishing very long and with plenty of attitude. This impeccably poised, exquisitely perfumed 2015 Haut-Brion possesses the most alluring yet seemingly effortless beauty.."

-100 points - Lisa Perotti-Brown, Master of Wine and editor in chief of Robert Parker Wine Advocate

Pétrus Pomerol 2015 \$3500

One of the most famous and most difficult wines to get in the world.

"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2015 Petrus (bottled in mid-July 2017) opens in its own time to reveal crushed black cherries, warm plums, mulberries and cedar chest suggestions with touches of anise, lavender, beef drippings and wild thyme plus a waft of crushed rocks. Medium to full-bodied, it fills the palate with generous, exuberant, wonderfully layered red, black and perfumed blue fruits contrasted beautifully by very ripe, very fine-grained and very firm tannins plus an ethereal line of seamless acid, finishing long and minerally. Olivier Berrouet and his team have knocked it out of the park in 2015. Look for this Pétrus to build and unfold over the next 20 years and confidently cellar this legend for 40+ years." -100 points - Lisa Perotti-Brown

Chateau Palmer Margaux 2015 \$650

A top house in the Margaux appellation, the 2015 Palmer excels.

"I am breathless with the dark-berry, lavender and burnt-orange aromas. Some salt. Just so formidable and deep. Stunningly sexy on the palate with a density and power, yet it leaves things so clean and bright. You want to drink it and enjoy it now, but it has the structure to last forever. Drink in 2022." -100 points – James Suckling, former senior editor of Wine Spectator



LIQUOR DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

BEST VALUE: In a great vintage like 2015, delicious wines can be found in all price bands.

Château Jouanin Bécot Côtes de Bordeaux-Castillon 2015 \$35

Keep a look out for the rising star appellations in the Côtes de Bordeaux as they can offer tremendous value.

“A juicy wine with chocolate, almond and plum character. Medium to full body, chewy and velvety tannins and flavorful finish. Serious for the appellation. A little austere now but will be better in 2020.” - 91 points, James Suckling

Château le Roudier Bordeaux Supérieur 2015 \$25

We expect customers to be picking up this little beauty by the case lot!

Château la Chandellière Médoc 2015 \$30

Try this Cabernet Sauvignon-based wine for a sense of the terroir of the Médoc.

BARB'S PICKS: Barbara Philip, Master of Wine and Category Manager for BC Liquor Stores, had a hard time editing this list, but named several she has a special affection for.

Château de France Blanc Pessac-Léognan 2015 \$39

“With all the excitement over the reds of Bordeaux, sometimes we forget about the crisp, complex and tangy whites. White Bordeaux is one of my favourite styles of wine, and one that is unique to the region. Chateau de France is a family winery making delicious and affordable wines. The '15 blanc has bright orange blossom and other citrus on the nose while the palate shows fresh cream and mineral. Delicious to drink now with hard cheeses or roast chicken.”

Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste Pauillac 2015 \$150

“For me, Grand-Puy-Lacoste typifies the appellation of Pauillac. It always has good depth of cassis-scented fruit, herbal accents and firm tannins. In a ripe vintage like 2015, the fruit is even riper and blacker with tannins that take on a bitter chocolate feel and flavor.”

Château Canon-la-Gaffelière St. Émilion Grand Cru 2015 \$175

“Like all of the Merlot-based wines on the ‘Right Bank’, the '15 Canon-Gaffelière is a dense mix of ripe red and black fruits, dark chocolate and toast. What makes it particularly special is the significant portion of Cabernet Franc in the blend which brings floral and sweet herbal tones. The palate is expansive, long and gorgeous.”