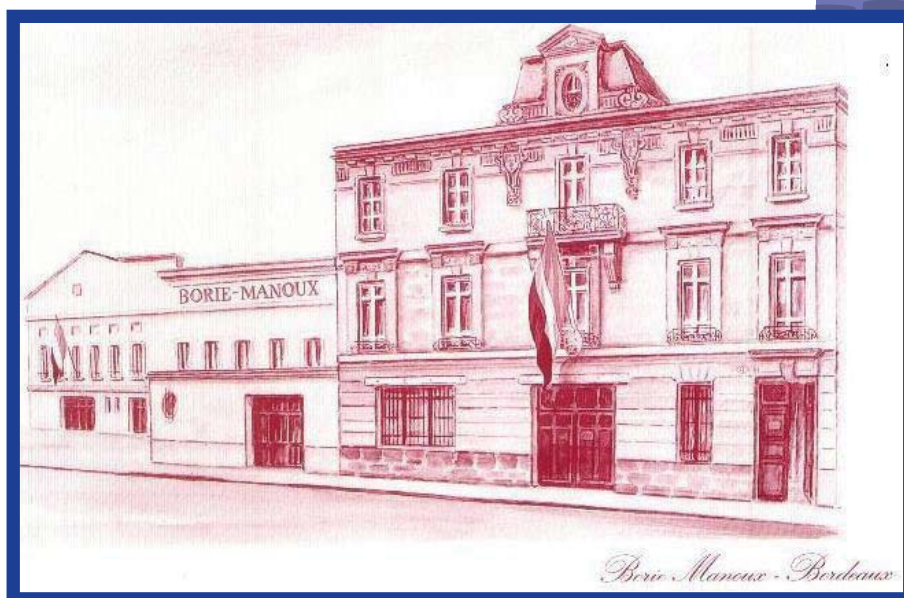


BORDEAUX

Does Bordeaux retain its importance in the U.K. On-Trade market and if so, why? Surely the success of the New World has inflicted permanent damage on France and its largest region.

Don't believe it. An often forgotten advantage gained by the New World for the Old is that New World wines have encouraged much more wine drinking. Bordeaux produces 800 million bottles a year from House Vin de Table to the aristocrats of the wine world such as the Châteaux Lafite, Latour, Petrus and d'Yquem.

Most Bordeaux wines are blends of mostly Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in varying percentages. The Cabernet gives blackcurrant and cedar, the Merlot plums and smooth roundness. Traditionally St. Emilion and Pomerol are dominated by Merlot, the rest on the Left Bank by Cabernet Sauvignon.






BORIE-MANOUX

As well as the Châteaux themselves, the Bordeaux wine industry is dominated by the négociants, the merchants who traditionally buy the wine from the growers and then take on the responsibility for selling it to the world.

H.B. Clark has had a very close relationship for many years with Borie-Manoux, a family négociant house owned by the Castéja family. Our Vin de Table, Beauroy, is blended for us by Borie-Manoux who also produce our House Claret and our Bergerac. But this firm, one of the last in Bordeaux to be family owned and managed, also owns ten Bordeaux châteaux and manages two more. Their top-of-the-tree Classed Growth Château Batailley is well known for its very consistent quality. Indeed, in the recent James Bond novel, 'Devil may Care' by Sebastian Faulks, Bond is introduced to Batailley with the words 'Batailley is a miracle. One of the great secrets of Bordeaux.' We heartily agree.



RED

	Taste Guide	Trade Sales Price
<p>Bergerac Borie Manoux Effectively an extension eastwards of Bordeaux with a more rustic style of fruit and flavour which produces fresh but still elegant reds.</p>	B	£3.99
<p>Claret Borie Manoux Classic Bordeaux blend from one of the leading producers showing good structured fruit and flavour.</p>	B	£4.33
<p>Grande Réserve de Beau Rivage This barrel aged Bordeaux is principally blended from Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. This wine was recently recommended to Decanter magazine readers by Michael Broadbent, the retired head of Christie's Wine Department.</p>	B	£5.13
<p>££  Château La Tuilerie de Puy, 2005, Bordeaux Superieur Our supplier was so impressed by the quality of this wine that he bought the whole of the vintage! It is very easy to see why given the abundance of currant fruit, the soft tannins and long aftertaste which give excellent balance.</p>	C	£7.49
<p>Château la Croix de Grezard, 2002, St. Emilion Lovely ripe blackberry fruit makes this very attractive drinking. St. Emilion has become one of the most popular and well-known regions of Bordeaux because its wines are often easier to drink than some of its neighbours.</p>	C	£9.01
<p>Château Le Cedre d'Arthus, 2004, Bordeaux Superieur This property's wine has a very pure colour and up-front fruit. What marks it out is the soft tannins which provide structure, grip and length of flavour which goes so well with food.</p>	B	£9.49
<p>Château Beaumont, 2002, Haut Medoc Well known in both England and France for easily enjoyable wines from excellent winemaking and maturing vines. High-tech equipment also helps quality.</p>	C	£10.13
<p>Château Tour du Roc Milon, 2002, Pauillac 2002 was a year when the Cabernet Sauvignon wines of the regions like Pauillac did well. The result is both ripe and fresh fruit flavours with finesse and elegance.</p>	B	£13.90
<p> Château Au Pont de Guitres, 2001, Lalande de Pomerol Lalande de Pomerol is just to the North of Pomerol, the region which is famous for its full, rich and very expensive wines like Chateau Petrus. Lalande wines tend to be less mellow, very much less in price and very much improving in quality. Rounded and full-bodied Merlot flavours are very much to the fore.</p>	C	£13.90
<p>Château Grand Soussans, 2004, Margaux Margaux is the largest of the communes of the Southern Medoc and is renowned for the production of elegant, fragrant wines with a silky feel to them. The Grand Soussans is classically well-made from this vintage with a really long finish.</p>	B	£14.95
<p> Château Batailley, 2001, Pauillac Dense purple in colour, cedarwood and black fruits on the nose and palate, medium-bodied and a long, long finish - in fact all it should have to be a classed growth claret. In particular, this wine is an example of supremely well-made Left Bank claret.</p>	C	£21.35
<p>La Réserve de Leoville Barton, 2004, St. Julien Anthony Barton makes some of the most elegant, cedary clarets available at his two properties, Leoville-Barton and Langoa-Barton. This is his second wine but has always shown the same quality and impeccable standards of wine-making.</p>	B	£22.97

