

Barrel Tasting Bordeaux 2007

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The Inconvenient Truth About 2007 Bordeaux

A difficult vintage yields light, simple red wines

[James Suckling](#)

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As one wine producer told me today after I tasted his barrel samples of 2007 Bordeaux, "It's a so-so vintage. We can't really expect much out of it."

I have to agree. I have spent the better part of this week in Bordeaux, and have so far tasted nearly 150 wines, in château cellars and blind tastings at my hotel. The 2007 vintage will never be remembered as a serious vintage, or even a good year. It's average quality at best, producing aromatic, lightly fruity and finely tannic wines. They will be quickly drunk and forgotten. (My first set of reviews, posted today, includes 77 wines from the Left Bank. More reviews will be posted early next week.)

The only thing memorable about the vintage is how some producers managed to make very good wines against all odds. For example, I just got back from tasting the 2007 from Château Lafleur, one of the jewels of Pomerol, and the wine showed a wonderful core of ripe fruit and fine tannins and lasted for a minute or two on the finish. Potentially outstanding, Lafleur is clearly among the wines of the vintage.

"We only made a wine like that [by] dedicating ourselves to the vineyard during the growing season," said Baptiste Guinadeau, who works the 15 acres or so of vineyards with his father, mother and girlfriend. "We worked as a family to get the most out of the vineyards in 2007."

Hard work in the vineyards was necessary for anyone who wanted to make good wine in 2007. The summer was one of the worst ever in the region, with gray, wet and cold weather in June, July and August that led to disease in the vineyard. If it hadn't been for the beautifully sunny and hot weather in the first two weeks of September, the vintage would have been a complete disaster. To get the most out of the vineyards, growers and their workers spent thousands of man-hours treating their vines, cutting back grape bunches and fine-tuning leaf canopies. Alas, many growers in Bordeaux had neither the resources nor the expertise to do so.

"The good weather in September and October saved the vintage," said Jean-Hubert Delon, the owner of Léoville Las-Cases in St.-Julien. His 2007 was one of the best young reds from the Médoc in my tastings. "The 2005 was so easy by comparison. Everyone made good wines then. The 2007 was really hard."

Indeed, the very good to excellent wines are few and far between. I already knew it was going to be like that from the outset; when Mother Nature is mean-hearted during the growing season, the wines tell the tale. After 25 years of visiting Bordeaux and tasting young wines from barrel, I have seen it all before. The grapegrowing conditions meant a weak vintage, along the lines of 1984, 1987, 1993, 1994, 1997 and 1999. The only question was: Just how bad would it be?

The expected lack of quality is why I cut down the number of 2007 wines I would taste from barrel to about 250, when I taste two or three times that amount in normal or good years.

Luckily, I didn't find many green or unripe wines. But many wines, particularly in the Médoc, were diluted, hollow, short or showed all of these defects together. I found more pleasant and delicately

fruity wines from the Right Bank appellations of Pomerol and St.-Emilion. I still need to taste a range of wines from P  ssac-Leognan and other parts of the Graves.

There is one brilliant light shining through the gray of 2007: the white wines. Both sweet and dry whites appear to be excellent. I have only tasted about a dozen Sauternes so far, but they are racy, rich and long. They remind me of the excellent 1988s when they were young, or slightly more reserved versions of the 2001s. The dry whites are equally racy; the S  millons are some of the richest yet liveliest I have ever tasted at this stage of their evolution.

But such successes will not be enough to change the reputation of what appears to be nothing but a pretty mediocre year for the region. "It's pretty boring tasting these wines," said one winemaker today. "We can always look forward to 2008."

2007 Bordeaux: Good but Nothing Special

In a difficult vintage for most Left Bank and Right Bank reds, Pessac-Léognan, Sauternes and dry whites shine

[James Suckling](#)

Posted: Tuesday, April 01, 2008

Bordeaux is introducing its 2007 vintage to the world, but instead of generating excitement, this year the process has felt monotonous. So many people were just going through the motions: Pour the wine ... say how good it is for the vintage ... smile ... next.

I don't blame anyone. Tasting a range of 2007s can be pretty boring. I tasted nearly 300 wines over the past seven days. It's clear that 2007 is a good but nothing-special vintage for most of the well-known wines of Bordeaux. Sauternes and dry whites are the exceptions; they can be fabulous. And there are a few outstanding reds as well. But overall, I am not sure the new vintage is even on the same level as [1999](#).

I give the 2007 reds a tentative vintage rating of 84-87 points for the Left Bank and 85-88 points for the Right Bank (on *Wine Spectator's* 100-point scale).

It's clear that this will not be a vintage for consumers to buy as futures. However, if producers are reasonable with prices, 2007 will deliver some pretty wines for early drinking that can be enjoyed while waiting for the 2005s, '03s and '00s to mature.

This all said, however, the wines are much better than anticipated considering the bad weather during the growing season. The Bordelais, as I [wrote a few days ago](#), are some of the most gifted vineyard growers and winemakers in the world. In any given harvest, they will get the most out of the vintage.

Yes, there was mildew in the vineyards. And yes, there was a lot of rain. But they are used to that, and the top estates have the resources and know-how to compensate for such difficulties. What they can't improve upon, however, is a lack of sunshine—at least not yet! 2007 lacked sunshine until the end of August and then it only lasted for a little more than two weeks.

So the best reds came from the vineyard areas that were the most precocious, as well as those with the best drainage. "Vineyards with gravelly soils did the very best," commented Christian Moueix, whose family owns and runs some of the most prestigious names on the Right Bank, including châteaux Pétrus, Trotanoy and La Fleur-Pétrus.

The wines of the vintage are Château d'Yquem, the great Sauternes, and Haut-Brion White (both 97-100 points). Then among the reds, Ausone, Lafleur, Mouton-Rothschild and Le Pin (90-93) and Haut-Brion and Pétrus (89-92).

The most consistent appellation for reds was Pessac-Léognan, where many of the wines were very close to the quality of 2006 (and some might be better). The region's gravelly soil and the châteaux' earlier harvesting helped them in 2007.

The Pomerol appellation was also good, but mainly the top estates located on or just off the famous clay knoll. Top wines include such names as Pétrus, Le Pin, Lafleur, L'Église Clinet, Vieux-Château-Certan, Certan de May, L'Évangile and La Conseillante. Certan de May may have made a better wine

in 2007 than 2006, due to improvements in winemaking and vineyard techniques. Lesser names made reds that are good but nothing special.

I had hoped St.-Emilion would be up at the same level as Pomerol, but I think that many châteaux tried to push their wines too much through concentration and extraction. The concentrating machines (mostly using reverse osmosis) were on full throttle in 2007 to cut some of the diluted juice, but there was very little goodness in the grapes to concentrate. This led to slightly dry and austere young reds from producers who went for too much concentration.

The Médoc was a bit of a minefield, with very good to weak reds in 2007. It appears only the very best estates could afford to make draconian selections in their vineyards to get the best grapes, though it paid off for those that did. Otherwise, most of the well-known, lower-ranked estates made good reds, but again, nothing special.

I was surprised by the quality of some wines from lesser appellations, including Côtes de Franc, Côtes de Bordeaux and Côtes de Castillon. A number of the wines were fresh and fruity with light tannins and clean flavors. I think that these properties had less to work with so they focused on harvesting and selecting ripe, clean grapes and nothing more. They didn't try to do too much with their winemaking either, meaning they didn't overextract.

"It cost me a lot, but I worked hard on getting only the best grapes we had into the fermentation vats," said Pierre Lurton, who makes a simple Bordeaux called Marjosse at his home estate in Entre-Deux-Mers, as well as manages the great estates of Cheval-Blanc and Yquem.

Nonetheless, the basic wines of Bordeaux are not expected to be very good in 2007. Some wine merchants and winemakers said the thousands of growers and wine producers in the region had few resources to treat their vineyards and cut back their crops in 2007. So they made very poor wines. As a result, some wine merchants will not be making their house wine blends in 2007. Who knows where these wines will be sold. This threatens to exacerbate the financial crisis so many small growers in Bordeaux are already facing.

How to sell the 2007 wines is a big question for Bordeaux. It's all about lowering prices. The general expectation is that prices for the expensive wines of Bordeaux will drop significantly in light of the lower quality of most in 2007, compared to other more recent vintages. This will not be a vintage for speculation in any sense of the word, or part of the world. Moreover, the world economy is in pretty bad shape. Many expect that the U.S. market will be completely out of the futures game with the dollar now close to \$1.60 to the euro. The British pound has lost 15 percent against the euro, so they may also sit out of the game.

A lot of château owners told me that they were not worried about any of that because they had new customers, and new economies such as China, Russia and India are really coming on line now for premium Bordeaux. I have spent a good deal of time in the Far East over the past few years, and I tried to explain to the Bordelais that these markets are not futures markets. These customers like to buy wines in bottle and consume them upon arrival. Moreover, the stock markets of China and India are also volatile, like other key markets at the moment, and I am not sure the affluent are ready to buy a new vintage of Bordeaux.

The château owners and managers didn't look convinced. "Why ruin our lunch?" asked one in the Médoc, as we discussed the market during a meal last week.

Whatever happens, the 2007s will one day find a market, and consumer demand will set the prices. For example, 1997, another good but not great year (85 points for the Left Bank, 86 points for the Right Bank), initially sold at high prices as futures to négociants and importers, but when the wines came on the market in bottle, they could only be sold to consumers by reducing prices below cost. Even now,

they are very cheap compared to more recent vintages. They were overpriced from the beginning.

"I think that 2007 is a friendly vintage, and it should be sold at friendly prices," said John Kolasa, the manager of Rauzan-Ségla and Canon, two châteaux that made very good wines in 2007. "This is our chance to reach out to the consumer and welcome them back to Bordeaux with good wine for good prices."

Wouldn't that be great for everyone concerned who loves a good bottle of Bordeaux?

2007 Red Bordeaux by Appellation

[James Suckling](#)

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Bordeaux

CHÂTEAU MARJOSSE Bordeaux 2007 Score: 82-85

Simple and fruity, with blackberry and mineral. Medium and enjoyable now. —*J.S.*

THUNEVIN Bordeaux Bad Boy 2007 Score: 82-85

Light, but clean, with berry and fresh herb undertones. Fine tannins. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BONNET Bordeaux 2007 Score: 80-83

Very light, with a dilute center palate, but some clean berry and light fresh herb character. —*J.S.*

Côtes de Castillon

CHÂTEAU D'AIGUILHE Côtes de Castillon 2007 Score: 85-88

Balanced and pretty--surprisingly so for the vintage. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a clean, fruity finish. Not aggressive. 80 percent Merlot and 20 percent Cabernet Franc. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CAP DE FAUGÈRES Côtes de Castillon 2007 Score: 84-87

Light and fruity, with berry and tobacco character, medium-to-light body and a clean finish. Little hollow. —*J.S.*

Haut-Médoc

CHÂTEAU BERNADOTTE Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 85-88

A bit hard, but good raspberry fruit and dark chocolate. Medium body. Medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SOCIANDO-MALLET Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 85-88

A fruity wine, with a slightly hollow midpalate, but clean and attractive. Medium tannins and a fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTEMERLE Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry and currant character. Delicate and fruity, with soft tannins. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA LAGUNE Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 84-87

Some berry character, with medium body, firm tannins and a light finish. Little lean. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CAMENSAC Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 83-86

A medium-bodied red, with some berry and mineral character, but turns a little lean. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU COUFRAIN Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 83-86

Mineral, berry and fresh herb character on the nose and palate. Medium-to-light body. Fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SÉNÉJAC Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 83-86

Slightly firm and hollow, but there's some clean berry and mineral character. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR CARNET Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 83-86

Blackberry and mineral aromas and flavors. Medium body, some chewy tannins. A little herbal. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELGRAVE Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 82-85

Light and fruity, like the rest from this appellation, with some currant and mineral character. Short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CITRAN Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 82-85

A bit lean, but some attractive berry and mineral character. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SOUDARS Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 81-84

Berry and citrus fruit character, with a light body and a simple finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VERDIGNAN Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 80-83

Berry aromas, with an herbal, slightly green undertone. Medium body, simple finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU D'AGASSAC Haut-Médoc 2007 Score: 79-82

Light and watery, with some berry and herbal character. —*J.S.*

Lalande-de-Pomerol

LA FLEUR DE BOÛARD Lalande-de-Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Good berry and mineral character, with a fresh basil undertone. Medium body, velvety tannins and a medium finish. Good for the vintage. —*J.S.*

LA FLEUR DE BOÛARD Lalande-de-Pomerol Le Plus 2007 Score: 84-87

A little stemmy on the nose, with blackberry fruit. Medium body and slightly angular tannins. —*J.S.*

Lussac-St.-Emilion

CHÂTEAU DE BARBE BLANCHE Lussac-St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Perfumed, with flowers and some fruit. Medium body, clean fruit and a light finish. —*J.S.*

Margaux

CHÂTEAU MARGAUX Margaux 2007 Score: 89-92

Aromas of blackberry, black licorice and currant follow through to a medium-to-full body, with fine tannins and a long, sweet fruit finish. Balanced and perfumed. Very Burgundian and pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PALMER Margaux 2007 Score: 88-91

Very pretty, with blackberry, light vanilla and a coffee bean character. Medium-to-full body, with ultrafine tannins and a long, clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU RAUZAN-SÉGLA Margaux 2007 Score: 88-91

Very pretty fruit for the vintage, with blackberry, currant and lightly smoky oak. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a fruity finish. Refined and delicious. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU POUGET Margaux 2007 Score: 87-90

Very attractive crushed berry aromas follow through to a medium body, with ripe, almost sweet berry on the center palate. Long and fruity. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PRIEURÉ-LICHINE Margaux 2007 Score: 87-90

Violet and berry aromas follow through to a medium body, with firm tannins and a long finish for the vintage. Nicely done. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DAUZAC Margaux 2007 Score: 86-89

A good wine for the vintage, with medium-to-full body, silky tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DURFORT-VIVENS Margaux 2007 Score: 86-89

Mineral and berry character, with hints of flowers. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU KIRWAN Margaux 2007 Score: 86-89

Fruity and attractive, with mineral and berry character. Medium body, fine tannins and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MALESCOT-ST.-EXUPÉRY Margaux 2007 Score: 86-89

Balanced and fruity, with strawberry, tobacco and light chocolate character. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PALMER Margaux Alter Ego 2007 Score: 86-89

Lovely aromas of blackberry and chocolate on the nose, following through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a clean and fresh finish. This represents 50 percent of the production in 2007. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MARQUIS-D'ALESME-BECKER Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Fruity and velvety young red, with berry, violet and sweet tobacco character. Medium body, fine tannins. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BOYD-CANTENAC Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Bright berry aromas, with hints of flowers, follow through to a medium body. Ripe tannins and a medium finish. A bit hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTENAC-BROWN Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Gorgeous nose of crushed berry and currant. Medium-bodied, with pleasing fruit and tannins. Medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CHANTELUNE Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and currant on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FERRIÈRE Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

A fresh and easy young red, with plum and cherry character, medium body, fresh acidity and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GISCOURS Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Raspberry and mineral aromas and flavors follow through to a medium body, with good fruit and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LASCOMBES Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and floral character, with medium body, medium tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

MAROJALLIA Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

Good core of fruit, with blackberry and mineral character. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

PAVILLON ROUGE DU CHÂTEAU MARGAUX Margaux 2007 Score: 85-88

A fresh and fruity young red, with currant and light vanilla aromas and flavors. Even a little white truffle. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BRANE-CANTENAC Margaux 2007 Score: 84-87

A bit lean, but some pleasant berry and spice character. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS MARGALAIN Margaux 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry and chocolate aromas and flavors, but rather dilute, with fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU D'ISSAN Margaux 2007 Score: 84-87

Rather lean, with some berry and currant character, mineral and mint undertones. Light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA GURGUE Margaux 2007 Score: 83-86

Some currant and berry character on the nose and palate. Medium-to-light body. Firm tannins, with a slightly metallic undertone. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LABÉGORCE-ZÉDÉ Margaux 2007 Score: 83-86

Plummy and perfumed on the nose. Medium-bodied, with good fruit, fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DU TERTRE Margaux 2007 Score: 83-86

Some berry, with a fresh herb undertone. Medium body, fine tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LABÉGORCE Margaux 2007 Score: 82-85

Lean, but has some clean berry and mineral character in a light-to-medium body. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE DE TAYAC Margaux 2007 Score: 81-84

Attractive berry and rose character on the nose and palate. Medium body, but short and dilute. —*J.S.*

Médoc

CHÂTEAU POTENSAC Médoc 2007 Score: 86-89

A balanced and fruity red, with mineral, violet and berry character. Medium-to-full-bodied, with refined tannins and a clean, fresh finish. I like this better than 2006. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GREYSAC Médoc 2007 Score: 81-84

Berry and mineral character turns slightly herbal. Light body. Austere finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LOUDENNE Médoc 2007 Score: 80-83

Light, with some fruit, but turns herbal and short. —*J.S.*

Moulis

CHÂTEAU CHASSE-SPLEEN Moulis 2007 Score: 85-88

Pretty young wine, with blackberry and chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, with soft, velvety tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

Pauillac

CHÂTEAU MOUTON-ROTHSCHILD Pauillac 2007 Score: 90-93

Wonderful perfumes of flowers, currant, blackberry and violet. Full-bodied, with very fine tannins and a caressing texture. Long and balanced. Very, very pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD Pauillac 2007 Score: 89-92

Very new Lafite, with firm, yet polished tannins and subdued currant and sweet tobacco character. Long and structured. Racy. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LATOUR Pauillac 2007 Score: 89-92

Very pretty and refined, with wonderful, silky tannin texture and ripeness. Full and harmonious, with lots of fruit at the end. A reserved and subtle wine. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CLERC MILON Pauillac 2007 Score: 88-91

Currants and licorice, with a floral character on the nose and palate. Medium-to-full body, good fruit and fine tannins. Balanced and pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY-LACOSTE Pauillac 2007 Score: 88-91

Plenty of subtle cassis and floral aromas follow through to a medium-to-full-bodied palate, with fine tannins and a fresh finish. Pretty wine. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PICHON-LONGUEVILLE-BARON Pauillac 2007 Score: 88-91

Impressive concentration for the vintage, with plenty of currant and berry on the nose and palate. Medium-to-full body, fine tannins and a medium finish. Well done for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PICHON-LONGUEVILLE-LALANDE Pauillac 2007 Score: 88-91

This is very firm and racy, with good fruit concentration. Medium-to-full body, chewy tannins and a medium finish. Very good density for the vintage. Wait and see. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PONTET-CANET Pauillac 2007 Score: 88-91

Crushed blackberry, currant and light licorice. Full-bodied, with lovely ripe tannins and a long, fruity finish. Balanced and refined. A beauty. —*J.S.*

LES FORTS DE LATOUR Pauillac 2007 Score: 87-90

Refined, with layers of polished tannins and a subtle and delicate palate. Medium-bodied, with lovely length and finesse. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BATAILLEY Pauillac 2007 Score: 87-90

Very pretty, with berry and sweet tobacco character. Medium body, fine tannins and a fresh and fruity finish. Delicious already. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU D'ARMAILHAC Pauillac 2007 Score: 86-89

A little short right away, but shows attractive berry and chocolate character on the nose and palate. Medium body, soft tannins and a long, caressing finish. Slightly hollow in the mid palate. —*J.S.*

CARRUADES DE LAFITE ROTHSCHILD Pauillac 2007 Score: 86-89

Balanced and very pretty, with refined tannins, medium body and delicious berry, chocolate and light spice. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DUHART-MILON ROTHSCHILD Pauillac 2007 Score: 86-89

A bit angular, with licorice, tobacco and berry character. Tar too. Medium-to-full body, firm tannins and a medium finish. Slightly hollow midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BAGES-LIBÉRAL Pauillac 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and fresh herb character on the nose, with medium body, firm tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES Pauillac 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and currant on the nose and palate, with medium body, fine tannins and a slightly dilute finish. —*J.S.*

LE PETIT MOUTON DE MOUTON-ROTHSCHILD Pauillac 2007 Score: 85-88

Attractive blackberry and toasted oak, with plenty of tar and licorice on the nose and palate. Full-bodied, with good fruit and ripe tannins, but slightly hollow in the center palate. Second wine of Mouton. Seems better than the 2006. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CORDEILLAN-BAGES Pauillac 2007 Score: 84-87

Plum, berry and mineral character on the nose and palate. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate, fruity finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND-PUY-DUCASSE Pauillac 2007 Score: 84-87

Good berry and currant character, with a coffee bean undertone. Medium body, lightly chewy tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PIBRAN Pauillac 2007 Score: 84-87

Currant, blackberry and mineral follow through to a medium body, with good fruit and a light finish. A bit hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BATAILLEY Pauillac 2007 Score: 83-86

Some berry and currant character, but slightly angular, with lightly green tannins. Medium body. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LYNCH-MOUSSAS Pauillac 2007 Score: 80-83

Light, with some fruit, but turns a little herbal on the finish. —*J.S.*

Pessac-Léognan

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 89-92

Fabulous nose of crushed berry, dark chocolate, violet and licorice. Medium-to-full body, very silky tannins and a mineral, berry and silky finish. Slightly austere, but very pretty and racy. 43 percent Merlot, 44 percent Cabernet Sauvignon and 13 percent —*J.S.*

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 88-91

Good concentration of blackberry and raspberry fruit. Medium-to-full body, velvety tannins and a medium finish. Very close to the 2006 in quality. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA MISSION-HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 88-91

Violet and berry, with lovely, flowery undertones. Medium-to-full body, fine tannins, a good core of ripe fruit and a medium finish. 43 percent Merlot, 48 percent Cabernet Sauvignon and 9 percent Cabernet Franc. Normally there is close to 70 percent Merlo —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 88-91

Lots of blackberry, truffle, grilled meat and mineral character. Medium-to-full body, firm tannins and a caressing finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SMITH-HAUT-LAFITTE Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 88-91

Fresh mushroom, berry and currant on the nose and palate. Medium body, good tannins and plenty of fruit for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BOUSCAUT Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 86-89

Berry and blackberry character, with light vanilla. Medium body, a good core of fruit and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BRANON Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 86-89

Rather herbal, but good blackberry and mineral character. Medium body, fine tannins and a chewy finish. Better than 2006? —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTELYS Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 86-89

Blackberry and mineral character, with a fresh herb undertone. Medium body and a good core of fruit. Medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MALARTIC-LAGRAVIÈRE Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 86-89

Blackberry and licorice aromas and flavors. Medium-to-full body, silky tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU OLIVIER Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 86-89

Berry and mineral character, with hints of licorice and mint. Medium body, good velvety tannins and a medium finish. Well done for the vintage. —*J.S.*

LA CHAPELLE DE LA MISSION-HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 85-88

Very Cabernet on the nose, with currant and mineral. Medium body, fresh fruit and fine tannins. Medium finish. A little hollow, but good ripe fruit. —*J.S.*

LE CLARENCE DE HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 85-88

Floral aromas, with currant and light sultana. Medium body and fine tannins. Angular. Falls a little short. Somewhat austere. This is the new name for Bahans Haut-Brion, the second wine of Haut-Brion. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA GARDE Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and mineral character, with hints of flowers. Medium body, fine tannins and fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BERGEY Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and black licorice aromas and flavors. Medium body, good fruit and silky tannins. Hollow midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LATOUR MARTILLAC Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and chocolate character, with medium body, firm tannins and a medium finish. Slightly one-dimensional. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BARET Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 84-87

Like the blackberry, stone and light chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium body, velvety tannins and a light finish. Little short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BROWN Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 84-87

Licorice and blackberry aromas and flavors follow through to a medium body, with chewy tannins and a hollow finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA LOUVIÈRE Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 84-87

Aromas of blackberry and mineral follow through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LES CARMES-HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 83-86

Dilute, but there's still some clean fruit, with mineral character as well. Medium-to-light body. Short finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS MARSALETTE Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 83-86

Fresh and fruity, with plum and light spice aromas and flavors. Medium body and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE ROCHEMORIN Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 82-85

Berry, mineral and floral aromas and flavors. Medium-to-light body. Short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU COUHINS-LURTON Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 81-84

This is very light, but there's some clean berry, mineral and fruit character. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE CRUZEAU Pessac-Léognan 2007 Score: 80-83

Some berry and mineral character, but light and dilute. —*J.S.*

Pomerol

CHÂTEAU LAFLEUR Pomerol 2007 Score: 90-93

This is serious. It starts off slowly and builds on your palate. Medium-to-full body and subtle flavors of chocolate, berry and light vanilla. Long and persistent for the year. Wonderful. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LE PIN Pomerol 2007 Score: 90-93

Very typical Le Pin, with floral, cassis and light plum character. Full, yet refined, with lovely silky tannins and a long, long sweet fruit finish. Very pretty. Not many 2007s like this. The winemaker says that this has a deluxe caress and it does. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CERTAN DE MAY Pomerol 2007 Score: 89-92

This is very nicely done for the vintage, with plenty of floral, mineral and fresh dark fruit character. Medium-to-full body, fine tannins and a clean, focused finish. Very impressive for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU L'ÉGLISE CLINET Pomerol 2007 Score: 89-92

Berry and chocolate character follows through to a medium body, with delicate tannins and a medium finish. Real wine for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PÉTRUS Pomerol 2007 Score: 89-92

Wonderful aromas of violet, rose and blackberry. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a medium-to-long finish. Pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA CONSEILLANTE Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Aromas of coffee, chocolate, violet and berry follow through to a solid core of ripe fruit for the vintage, with fine tannins and a long, flavorful finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU L'ÉVANGILE Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Gorgeous aromas of blackberry, dark chocolate and vanilla follow through to a full body, with fine tannins and a medium finish. A slight dip in the middle palate. Pretty, with sweet fruit and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA FLEUR-PÉTRUS Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Very pretty berry, dark chocolate and plum on the nose. Medium-to-full body, ripe tannins, good fruit and a medium finish. Nicely crafted young 2007. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FRANC-MAILLET Pomerol Cuvée Jean Baptiste 2007 Score: 88-91

Really good for the vintage, with chocolate, blackberry and floral aromas and flavors. Full body, ripe tannins and a medium long finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GAZIN Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Extremely pretty for the vintage, with chocolate, berry and light coffee aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate finish. Very well done. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HOSANNA Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Aromas of minerals and flowers follow through to a medium-to-full body, with fine tannins and a medium-long finish. Shows good ripeness and concentration for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PROVIDENCE Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

Impressive ripeness on the nose, with plenty of plum and blackberry. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU TROTANOY Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

A wine with a pretty balance of chocolate, berry and mineral character, with fine tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

VIEUX-CHÂTEAU-CERTAN Pomerol 2007 Score: 88-91

A sweet and fruity wine, with chocolate, berry and plum character. Medium body, fine tannins and a long finish. Tender wine. 72 percent Merlot, 28 percent Cabernet Franc. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA GRAVE À POMEROL Pomerol 2007 Score: 87-90

Floral, berry and green olive character on the nose follows through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a delicate, silky-textured finish. All in finesse. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LATOUR À POMEROL Pomerol 2007 Score: 87-90

Subtle aromas of blackberry, mineral and tarragon follow through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a long finish. Balanced and pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU NENIN Pomerol 2007 Score: 87-90

Chocolate, berry and violet. Medium-to-full body, fine tannins and a fresh finish. Pretty and fruity. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BOURGNEUF-VAYRON Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Good ripeness on the nose, with hints of fresh flowers. Medium body, very good fruit, medium tannins and a medium finish. Little hot on the finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CLINET Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Clean, focused and well made for the vintage, with berry, dark chocolate and floral character. Medium body, silky tannins and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS L'ÉGLISE Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Berry and fresh herb character. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. Lacks some midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DU DOMAINE DE L'ÉGLISE Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Attractive aromas of fruit and chocolate follow through to a medium body, with silky tannins and a medium finish. Delicate and nicely made for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LE GAY Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

A wine with mineral and berry character. Medium body, firm tannins and a medium finish. Layered. Clean. Good concentration for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MONTVIEL Pomerol 2007 Score: 86-89

Violet and berry character, with medium body, good fruit, mineral and fine tannins. Well done for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CERTAN-MARZELLE Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Strawberry jam on the nose, with hints of mushroom. Medium-bodied, with a soft, round texture and a light finish. A bit simple. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA CLÉMENCE Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Some sweet berry fruit, with a hint of tarragon. Medium body, delicate tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA CROIX DU CASSE Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Subtle blueberry and dark chocolate aromas follow through to a medium body, with good fruit and a light finish. —*J.S.*

PENSÉES DE LAFLEUR Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Violet and rose on the nose, with hints of raspberry. Medium-bodied, with a solid core of berry, chocolate and plum fruit. Round tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PETIT-VILLAGE Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

A bit hollow, but there's some good berry and sweet tobacco character. Chocolate and mineral on the finish. Medium-bodied. Refined. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ROUGET Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Some good berry and dark chocolate aromas and flavors, with a round texture and a clean finish. Good quality for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA VIOLETTE Pomerol 2007 Score: 85-88

Sweet berry and floral character on the nose. A little reductive, showing some berry and cherry

character, with violet and green olive. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BEAUREGARD Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

Hollow, but shows some decent mineral and berry character. Medium body and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS DU CLOCHER Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

Licorice and berry aromas and flavors follow through to a medium body, with chewy tannins and a medium finish. Turns austere on the finish. Little too much. —*J.S.*

DOMAINE FAYAT-THUNEVIN Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry and fresh herb aromas and flavors. Medium body, light tannins and a finish. Slightly austere. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAFLEUR-GAZIN Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

Has some berry, chocolate and mineral character, with a medium body and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MOULINET Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

Some mineral and blackberry character, with hints of licorice. Medium body, hollow center palate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VRAY-CROIX-DE-GAY Pomerol 2007 Score: 84-87

This is fruity and pleasant, with chocolate and berry character. Delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLEGRAVE Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Light and fruity, with some citrus fruit and blackberry character. —*J.S.*

CLOS DE LA VIEILLE ÉGLISE Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Some berry and mineral character on the nose and palate. Medium body and light finish. —*J.S.*

LE CLOS DU BEAU-PÈRE Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Leather and berry aromas and flavors. Light body. Turns austere. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA COMMANDERIE DE MAZEYRES Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Some berry fruit character, with toasted oak, medium body and a simple finish. Little tart. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FEYTIT-CLINET Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Berry, fresh herb and chocolate character. Light body. Light finish. Slightly dilute. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PLINCE Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Soft and fruity, with plum and light chocolate character. Medium-bodied, with a light finish. Falls away quickly on the finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PRIEURS DE LA COMMANDERIE Pomerol 2007 Score: 83-86

Berry and floral character, with medium body and a slightly austere finish. Short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BONALGUE Pomerol 2007 Score: 82-85

Light and fruity, with some vanilla and cedar character. Short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VIEUX-MAILLET Pomerol 2007 Score: 82-85

A little thin and metallic, but some blackberry and mineral character. Medium-to-light body. Simple finish. —*J.S.*

Premières Côtes de Bordeaux

CHÂTEAU CARDUS Premières Côtes de Bordeaux Prima 2007 Score: 84-87

Lots of coffee bean and toasted oak character but a simple wine some decent fruit. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CARIGNAN Premières Côtes de Bordeaux 2007 Score: 83-86

Light and friendly, with berry and light chocolate aromas and flavors. Short. —*J.S.*

Puisseguin-St.-Emilion

CHÂTEAU SOLEIL Puisseguin-St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Aromatic and very pretty on the nose, with plum and cherry. Medium-bodied, with a balance of fine tannins and a fresh finish. —*J.S.*

St.-Emilion

CHÂTEAU AUSONE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 90-93

Complex aromas of rose, mineral, blackberry and licorice follow through to a full body, with fine, racy tannins and a medium-long finish. Racy and stylish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL-BLANC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 89-92

Has gorgeous aromas already, with plum, sweet tobacco, violet and a little coffee. Medium-bodied, with ultrafine tannins and a long finish. This is 30 percent of the harvest. 60 percent Cabernet Franc and 40 percent Merlot. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PAVIE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 89-92

Very perfumed, with a mineral and floral character, as well as dark fruit. Full-bodied, with chewy tannins and a medium finish. Solid and well-structured for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ANGÉLUS St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 88-91

Berry, mineral and licorice aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. Very well done for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DASSAULT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 88-91

Crushed blackberry and blueberry aromas follow through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a long finish. Balanced, with a good core of fruit for the vintage. Well done. —*J.S.*

LA MONDOTTE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 88-91

This shows lovely balance and finesse, with a solid core of ripe fruit, berry and light chocolate. Medium-to-full body, good texture and a fine finish. Excellent length. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PAVIE-MACQUIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 88-91

This has good concentration for the vintage, with lots of mineral, berry, currant and flowers. I like this a lot. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU TROPLONG-MONDOT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 88-91

Attractive for the vintage, with berry, mineral and mint aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate finish. Very well done. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLEFONT-BELCIER St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Some real sweetness in the fruit in this wine for the vintage. Medium-to-full body, ripe tannins and a medium finish. Well done. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Fresh and fruity, with berry and hints of citrus fruit. Medium body, fine tannins and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANON St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

A very pretty wine, with blackberry, chocolate and light vanilla. Medium body, good ripe fruit and a balanced finish. All there and in harmony for the year. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANON-LA GAFFELIÈRE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Wonderful perfumes already of flowers and berry. Medium-bodied, with good fruit, fine tannins and a bright finish. Lots of citrus fruit and berry. A little hollow. Cabernet Franc comes through. 55 percent Merlot, 35 Cabernet Franc and 10 Cabernet Sauvigno —*J.S.*

CLOS ST.-MARTIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Blackberry, mineral and black olive aromas follow through to a medium body, with a solid core of fruit and fine tannins. A cool, pretty wine. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FAUGÈRES St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Soft and velvety, with some berry and dark chocolate character, medium body and fine tannins. Lacks some midpalate, but clean and pleasing. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LARCIS-DUCASSE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Focused and racy, with attractive mineral, berry and floral character. Medium body, racy tannins and a pretty finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MAGDELAINE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

I like the chocolate, mineral and berry aromas and flavors in this wine. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a fresh, fruity finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MONBOUSQUET St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Spicy, with coffee and ripe fruit aromas. Medium body, firm tannins and a chocolate and berry aftertaste. Solid for the vintage. Tiny bit hollow midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PAVIE-DECESSE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Dark chocolate, berry and mineral aromas and flavors. Medium body, well-integrated tannins and a medium finish. Well done. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PÉBY-FAUGÈRES St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 87-90

Round and velvety-textured, with chocolate, tobacco and berry character. Medium-to-full body. Medium finish. Falls a little short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BÉLAIR St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

Lots of floral and mineral character on the nose. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate, fruity finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE-MONDOTTE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

Good core of ripe fruit, with blackberry and dark chocolate character. Medium body, chewy tannins and a medium finish. Falls a little short. —*J.S.*

CLOS DE L'ORATOIRE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

Blackberry jam on the nose. Medium body, fine tannins and a slightly hollow midpalate. 90 percent Merlot and 10 percent Cabernet Franc. —*J.S.*

CLOS FOURTET St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

Attractive fruit, with berry and light chocolate character. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate finish. Holds together for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MOULIN-ST.-GEORGES St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

Crushed blackberry and licorice on the nose. Medium body, firm tannins and a silky-textured finish. A little more in the midpalate would give it more points. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU TERTRE DAUGAY St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 86-89

A medium-bodied red, with berry, tobacco and mineral character. Medium chewy finish. Good for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU L'ARROSÉE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and tobacco, with good fruit. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. Balanced for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BARDE-HAUT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry and dark chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BELLISLE MONDOTTE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Soft and fruity, with coffee, berry and plum aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins. Slightly short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BERGAT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

A bit lean, but there's some attractive berry and tobacco character. Medium-bodied, with a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BERLIQUET St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry and blueberry on the nose. Medium body, fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CAP DE MOURLIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry jam aromas follow through to a medium body, with medium tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHAPELLE D'AUSONE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Plenty of ripe fruit for the vintage, with plum and blackberry. Medium-to-full body, good tannins and a medium finish. Impressive second wine for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CLOS DES JACOBINS St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry and floral aromas follow through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CÔTE DE BALEAU St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and black olive on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied, with firm tannins and a medium-to-light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA COUSPAUDE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Some good blackberry and mineral character follows through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a clean finish. Slightly hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA CROIX FIGEAC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Fresh herb and green olive character, with dark fruits as well. Full and chewy. Light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DESTIEUX St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry and rose bush character on the nose and palate. Medium body, fine tannins and a loosely knit finish. Clean and refined. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA DOMINIQUE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Intense black cherry on the nose. Medium body, fine tannins and a clean finish. Little hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FRANC LA ROSE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Ripe and fruity for the vintage, with plum and berry character. Medium body and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA GAFFELIÈRE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Aromas of tar and berry, with hints of tobacco. Medium-to-full body, chewy tannins and a slightly short and austere finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND BARRAIL LAMARZELLE FIGEAC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

A good core of fruit for the vintage. Medium body, ripe tannins and a medium finish. Good job for the vintage. Better than 2006? —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LES GRANDES MURAILLES St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Blackberry and mineral aromas follow through to a medium body, with fine tannins and a fresh, floral aftertaste. Slightly hollow midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HAUT-CORBIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Grapey and fruity for the vintage, with medium body, clean fruit and fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAROQUE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and chocolate character, with medium body, round tannins and a medium finish. Hollow center palate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LUSSEAU St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Tar and blackberry on the nose. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a clean berry aftertaste. Good length for the vintage. —*J.S.*

MAGREZ FOMBRAUGE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Some berry and herbal character, with medium body, delicate tannins and a light finish. Not pushed. Pleasant. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE PRESSAC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry and coffee aromas follow through to a medium body, with soft tannins and a fruity finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU QUINAULT-L'ENCLOS St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

A pretty wine for the vintage, with plum, dark chocolate and lightly toasted oak. Medium body. Light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ROL VALENTIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Good berry and fresh herb character. Medium body, fine tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA SERRE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Fruity and balanced, with chocolate, berry and cream aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, with soft tannins and a light finish. Falls a tiny bit short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR DU PIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Clean and fruity, with berry and light chocolate character. Medium body and a medium finish. A bit hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR FIGEAC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Soft and easy, with berry, tobacco and light chocolate character. Medium body, medium tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VALANDRAUD St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 85-88

Very light, but some good berry, mineral and floral character. Little disappointing at this stage. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU L'ARCHANGE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry and tobacco aromas and flavors. Medium body, slightly austere finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTENAC St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Clean and fruity, with some mineral and fresh herb character. Light body, silky finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS DE SARPE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Some raspberry jam aromas and flavors, with vanilla undertones. Medium body, fine tannins and a delicate finish. —*J.S.*

LE DÔME St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Lots of blackberry and floral character on the nose. Medium body and fine tannins, but a little austere and loose on the finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA FLEUR St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Some good berry and mineral character on the nose and palate. Medium body, good tannins and a short finish. A bit austere. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FLEUR-CARDINALE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Licorice and tar, with blackberry. Medium-to-full body, medium tannins and a hollow midpalate. A little overextracted. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FOMBRAUGE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Really short, but some clean fruit and mineral character. Simple. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND CORBIN-DESPAGNE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Attractive berry and milk chocolate character on the nose and palate, following through to a medium body, with soft tannins. Very pleasant. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND-MAYNE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry with clove character on the nose and palate. Medium body, light finish. Slightly austere. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LE JURAT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Some good fruit for the vintage, with plum and blackberry. Medium body and fine tannins. A little short on the finish. —*J.S.*

LE PETIT CHEVAL St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Clean and fruity, with mineral and light plum aromas and flavors. Medium-to-light body, fine tannins and a fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PETIT-FAURIE-DE-SOUTARD St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Some plum and blackberry character. Medium body, firm tannins and a medium finish. Slightly hollow. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PIPEAU St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

A good red, with vanilla and berry character. Medium body, fine tannins and a medium finish. A bit one-dimensional. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU TROTTEVIEILLE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Rather light, with berry and mineral character, a light body and a clean finish. A little diluted. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VILLHARDY St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 84-87

Pleasant berry, vanilla and cedar aromas and flavors. Medium body, fine tannins and a short finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BALESTARD-LA-TONNELLE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Mineral, berry and vanilla character, with a medium body, delicate finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BOUTISSE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Plum, berry and mineral aromas and flavors. Medium body, chewy tannins and a medium finish. Austere. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CADET-PIOLA St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Simple and fruity, with cherry and blackberry aromas and flavors. Medium-to-light body. Light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTENAC St.-Emilion Climat 2007 Score: 83-86

Tobacco, plum and berry character. Medium body, chewy tannins and a slightly austere finish. A little overdone. —*J.S.*

CLOS DUBREUIL St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Aromas of blackberry and coffee follow through to a medium body, with some fruit and a tart finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA CLOTTE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Berry and herb character, medium body and a loosely knit mid-palate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CORBIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

A simple red, with some berry and mineral character. Medium to light body. Austere finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FRANC-MAYNE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Some berry and cherry character. Light body, fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAROZE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Blackberry, with some mineral and herbal undertones. Medium body, medium tannins, light finish. —*J.S.*

MARO DE ST.-AMANT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

A bit lean, but some berry and mineral aromas and flavors. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PIN DE FLEURS St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Berry and dark chocolate character. Medium body, firm tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

SAINTAYME St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Plummy and fruity, with some chocolate character. Medium body, simple finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ST.-HUBERT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 83-86

Berry and chocolate character, with medium body and fine tannins, but a hollow center palate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FONROQUE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 82-85

Very light, with some berry and tobacco character. Medium-to-light body. Simple finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MOULIN DU CADET St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 82-85

Light and simple, with some plum and berry character. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SANSONNET St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 82-85

Delicate, with berry and light vanilla character, but turns short on the finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS BADON-THUNEVIN St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 81-84

Very light and slightly herbal. Short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA COMMANDERIE St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 81-84

Light and slightly herbal, with delicate fruit. —*J.S.*

SIGNATURE DU CLOS ST.-VINCENT St.-Emilion 2007 Score: 81-84

Bright blackberry aromas, with lemon grass. Medium body and some herbal character. Bit funky. —*J.S.*

St.-Estèphe

CHÂTEAU COS-D'ESTOURNEL St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 88-91

Shows lovely perfume of dried flowers and berry, with a hint of currant. Full and long, with pretty tannins and a long finish. Balanced and pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CALON-SÉGUR St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 87-90

Fresh and fruity, with lovely currant, blackberry and smoke character. Medium body, fine tannins and a clean, fresh finish. Refined and delicate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MONTROSE St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 87-90

Berry and citrus fruit on the nose and palate. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a soft-textured finish. Pleasant and fruity. Friendly and caressing. Just a touch hollow in the midpalate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU COS-LABORY St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 85-88

Fruity and refined, with mineral and spice character. Medium body, clean finish. Very pleasant for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MEYNEY St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 85-88

Berry, dark chocolate and light spice. Medium body, good fruit for the vintage. Medium finish. Friendly wine for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BEAU-SITE St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 84-87

Perfumed, floral and lightly fruity on the nose. Medium body, fine tannins and a light finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAFON-ROCHET St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 84-87

Berry and spice character, with medium-to-light body, fine tannins and a short finish. Clean. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LES ORMES-DE-PEZ St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 84-87

Good berry, mineral and spice character on the nose and palate. Medium body, fine tannins and clean on the finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PHÉLAN-SÉGUR St.-Estèphe 2007 Score: 84-87

Blackberry and cherry aromas and flavors, with hints of mineral and spice. Medium body, light finish. Short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU VALROSE St.-Estèphe Cuvée Alienor 2007 Score: 81-84

Very light, but some berry and mineral character saves the wine. —*J.S.*

St.-Julien

CHÂTEAU DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU St.-Julien 2007 Score: 89-92

A solid wine, with plenty of rose petal, berry and currant character. Full and chewy. Ripe and very powerful. Wait and see, but impressive for the vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE LAS CASES St.-Julien 2007 Score: 89-92

This is layered, with sweet tobacco, currants, berries and dried flowers. Full and silky, with a long finish. Beautiful already. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRUAUD-LAROSE St.-Julien 2007 Score: 88-91

Soft and round, with lovely texture. Medium- to full-bodied, with berry, currant and chocolate flavors and a long, caressing finish. Delicious already. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LANGOA BARTON St.-Julien 2007 Score: 88-91

Lovely ripe fruit, with blackberry and cherry character and chocolate undertones. Long finish. Soft texture. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE BARTON St.-Julien 2007 Score: 88-91

Lovely core of blackberry and currant, with smoky oak and chocolate. Full and velvety. Delicious already. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BRANAIRE-DUCRU St.-Julien 2007 Score: 87-90

This shows impressive concentration of fruit for the vintage, with plenty of currants and violets, as well

as blackberries. Full and silky. Slightly hollow in the center palate, but very pretty. —*J.S.*

CLOS DU MARQUIS St.-Julien 2007 Score: 87-90

Roses and blackberries, with hints of currants. Full-bodied, with firm and silky tannins and plenty of character. Refined and pretty. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ST.-PIERRE St.-Julien 2007 Score: 87-90

Blackberries and flowers on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied, with silky, integrated tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU TALBOT St.-Julien 2007 Score: 87-90

Has a pretty core of ripe plum and berry fruit, with a medium body, fine tannins and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE POYFERRÉ St.-Julien 2007 Score: 86-89

A medium-bodied red, with good berry and mineral character, fine tannins and a medium finish. A little lean. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GLORIA St.-Julien 2007 Score: 85-88

Aromas of blackberries and fresh herbs follow through to a medium body, with round tannins and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BEYCHEVELLE St.-Julien 2007 Score: 84-87

A fruity red, with currants and berries. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a light finish. Falls away quickly. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAGRANGE St.-Julien 2007 Score: 84-87

Blackberry and mineral aromas, with hints of dark chocolate, follow through to a medium body with good fruit and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

2007 White Bordeaux

[James Suckling](#)

Posted: Tuesday, April 01, 2008

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRION Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 97-100

Complex aromas of lilacs, honey, pineapple, papaya and cream follow through to a full body, with incredible intensity on the palate. Lasts for minutes. Bright and crisp acidity, but an intense tropical fruit character as well. More structured than most reds in 2007. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAVILLE HAUT BRION Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 92-95

Very minerally, with lemon curd, cream and fresh pineapple aromas. Full, yet racy and very, very long. Bright acidity and structure. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU PAPE CLÉMENT Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 92-95

This is creamy and very, very long, with papaya, green apple, cream and tropical fruit. Full body. Exotic flavors. Impressive. Complex. —*J.S.*

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 91-94

Fresh and bright, with mineral, lemon and apple aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, with a lemony palate, fresh acidity and a long, subtle finish. —*J.S.*

PAVILLON BLANC DU CHÂTEAU MARGAUX Margaux 2007 Score: 91-94

This is superracy and stylish, with mineral, lemon, lime, pineapple and papaya. Full, yet balanced and fresh, crisp and long. Wonderful. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BOUSCAUT Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 90-93

I love the tropical combined with citrus fruit on the nose and palate, with some mineral undertones. Full-bodied and rich, yet fresh and lively. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BERGEY Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 90-93

Lots of lime and tropical fruit character on the nose and palate. Full-bodied, lively and flavorful. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MONBOUSQUET St.-Emilion White 2007 Score: 90-93

Shows lots of pineapple, mineral and lemon character. Fresh and lively, with plenty of flavor and crispness. This is complex. 75 percent Sauvignon Blanc, 25 percent Sauvignon Gris. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SMITH-HAUT-LAFITTE Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 90-93

Aromas of bananas, apples and lemons follow through to a full body, with exotic fruit and a crisp finish. Layered and stylish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BARET Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 89-92

Rich and thick, with lots of flavor and structure. Bright acidity and lively lime, lemon and mineral character on the palate. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LES CHARMES-GODARD Côtes de Francs White 2007 Score: 88-91

This is superrich and powerful, full of pineapples and cream, with melons and citrus fruits. Full and very lively. Long, long. 70 percent Sémillon, 20 percent Sauvignon Gris, 10 percent Muscadelle. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU COUHINS-LURTON Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 88-91

Lemon, mineral and green apple character. Medium- to full-bodied, with lively acidity and bright fruit.

—*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GRAND VILLAGE Bordeaux White 2007 Score: 88-91

Apple, lemon and hints of pineapple follow through to a medium body, with bright acidity and a clean, lively finish. 58 percent Sémillon, 32 percent Sauvignon Blanc. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA LOUVIÈRE Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 88-91

Apple, lime and lemon aromas follow through to a full body, with plenty of fruit and bright acidity. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU MALARTIC-LAGRAVIÈRE Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 88-91

Very, very fruity, with a limy, lemony and green apple character on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied, with a fresh finish. —*J.S.*

BLANC DE VALANDRAUD Bordeaux 2007 Score: 87-90

Bright and clean, with citrus, mineral and chalk character. Medium-bodied, with fresh acidity and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BROWN Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 87-90

Tropical fruit, with cream aromas, follow through to a full body, with good fruit and a medium finish. A little short. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE CRUZEAU Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 87-90

Good lemon, lime and light mineral aromas and flavors. Medium- to full-bodied, with bright acidity and a medium finish. Wait and see. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA GARDE Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 87-90

Aromas of citrus fruit and celery follow through to a medium body, with good fruit and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU OLIVIER Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 87-90

Plenty of pineapple and lemon aromas follow through to a full body, with intense, superlively acidity and a long finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE ROCHEMORIN Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 87-90

Apples, lemons and melons on the nose. Same on the palate. Medium-bodied, with bright acidity and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR CARNET Bordeaux White 2007 Score: 87-90

Pretty lemon and honey aromas and flavors here, with a medium body and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTELYS Pessac-Léognan White 2007 Score: 86-89

Lime and celery aromas, with hints of fresh fennel follow through to a full body, with good fruit and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

MAGREZ FOMBRAUGE Bordeaux White 2007 Score: 86-89

Aromas of melons and lemons follow through to a medium body, with good fruit and a clean honey aftertaste. A new white from here. —*J.S.*

S DE SUDUIRAUT Bordeaux White 2007 Score: 86-89

Lemon and mineral aromas. Medium-bodied, with good fruit and a bright, citrusy aftertaste. —*J.S.*

CLOS FLORIDENE Graves White 2007 Score: 85-88

Lemon and light celery character, with a medium body, fresh acidity and a clean finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FOMBRAUGE Bordeaux White 2007 Score: 85-88

Intense green apple and pear aromas follow through to a full body, with an oily texture and a medium

finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LATOUR MARTILLAC Pessac-Léognan White 2007 *Score: 85-88*

Fresh and lemony, with some mineral character. Medium body. Crisp finish. —*J.S.*

BLANC DE LYNCH-BAGES Bordeaux 2007 *Score: 85-88*

Bright and fruity, with lime and lemon aromas and flavors. Medium body. Clean finish. —*J.S.*

2007 Sauternes & Barsac

[James Suckling](#)

Posted: Tuesday, April 01, 2008

CHÂTEAU D'YQUEM Sauternes 2007 Score: 97-100

This is amazing. Full of spicy botrytis character, with smoke and piecrust underneath. Full and rich, yet not cloying or too dense. It's lively and long, finishing with intensity and power. A unnerving combination of wild ripe fruit and intense botrytis, with lively acidity. Really powerful. Should be a perfect wine. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU RIEUSSEC Sauternes 2007 Score: 93-96

Balanced and very spicy, with almond paste and apricot. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with a long, fruity, tangy finish. Layered and stylish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SIGALAS-RABAU Sauternes 2007 Score: 93-96

Fabulous aromas of dried apricot, botrytis spice and almonds. Full-bodied, with great intensity and a sweet palate. Long and layered, with loads of everything. Very, very impressive. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DOISY-DAËNE Sauternes L'Extravagant 2007 Score: 92-95

Refined and balanced, with citrus fruit, pineapple and just a hint of vanilla. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with a finish that's tangy, spicy and long. Pretty and harmonious. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE FARGUES Sauternes 2007 Score: 92-95

Wow. This is really beautiful, with loads of ripe, spicy and sweet fruit, bright acidity and a long, spicy finish. Impressive richness. Very, very long. Very classy. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE MYRAT Sauternes 2007 Score: 92-95

Dried apple, pear and honey on the nose and palate. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with a citrus fruit, apricot and spice character. Long and flavorful. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE RAYNE-VIGNEAU Sauternes 2007 Score: 92-95

Lively aromas and flavors of green apples, limes, papaya and honey. Full-bodied, yet balanced and medium sweet. Spicy and rich. Very long. Rayne-Vigneau is making better wine each vintage. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU SUDIRAUT Sauternes 2007 Score: 92-95

Solid baby sticky, with a core of apple pie, honey and spicy fruit on the palate. Medium- to full-bodied, with medium sweetness and a lively finish. —*J.S.*

CLOS HAUT-PEYRAGUEY Sauternes 2007 Score: 91-94

Impressive finish on this wine, which shows a spicy, sweet-and-sour, tropical fruit character on both nose and palate. Full-bodied, thick and racy. Lots going on. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU COUTET Barsac 2007 Score: 91-94

Thick and concentrated, with loads of tropical fruit, such as mango and papaya. Full, lively and spicy, with plenty of botrytis and a long finish. Wonderful potential. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU GUIRAUD Sauternes 2007 Score: 91-94

Thick and oily, with spicy character and lots of very ripe pineapple and pear flavors. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with a long finish. Layered and concentrated. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAFAURIE-PEYRAGUEY Sauternes 2007 Score: 91-94

Thick and rich, with lots of dried pineapple and honey character. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with some spice and a long finish. Powerful. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DOISY-DAËNE Barsac 2007 Score: 90-93

Intensely spicy, with lots of dried apricot, apple and pear character on the nose and palate. Full and rich, yet racy and lively. Shows balance and wonderful potential. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU NAIRAC Barsac 2007 Score: 90-93

Yikes. This is very thick and powerful, with masses of ripe, spicy, botrytised fruit. Full and rich, yet fresh and interesting. Looking forward to watching this wine's evolution. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LA TOUR BLANCHE Sauternes 2007 Score: 90-93

Loads of ripe fruit in this one, with pineapple, mango and honey undertones. Full-bodied, thick and layered. Medium sweet. Spicy, fruity aftertaste. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DOISY-VÉDRINES Barsac 2007 Score: 89-92

Lots of lemon cream and blanched almonds follow through to a medium-to-full body, with plenty of spicy, dried apricot character on the finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAMOTHE-GUIGNARD Sauternes 2007 Score: 88-91

Already pretty in the nose, with apples, pears and caramel. Full-bodied, with a spicy, fruity palate. Lovely balance of fruit, sweetness and bright acidity. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE MALLE Sauternes 2007 Score: 88-91

Full and rich on the palate. Seems very sweet, with lots of tropical fruit and melon character. Medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU BASTOR-LAMONTAGNE Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Tangy, sweet and fruity, with a sweet-and-sour character, medium body and a long, fresh finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CAILLOU Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

A delicate and pretty baby Barsac, with honey, apple and meringue character. Medium-bodied, with medium sweetness and a light spicy aftertaste. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU FILHOT Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Clean and fruity, with apple, honey and light caramel character. Full-bodied, medium sweet, with a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU LAMOTHE-DESPUJOLS Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Lots of citrus and apple character, with medium body, medium sweetness and a medium finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU RABAUD-PROMIS Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Thick and rich, with plenty of dried apple, spice and sliced pineapple character. Full-bodied, very sweet and slightly one-dimensional. Wait and see. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ROMER DU HAYOT Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Thick and concentrated, with lots of lemony tropical fruit character and a rich, oily palate. Long and flavorful. But a little ponderous. Wait and see. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU ROMER Sauternes 2007 Score: 87-90

Spicy, with apple, lemon peel and a good amount of spicy character. Medium- to full-bodied, refined and focused, with pretty fruit on the finish. More balanced style. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU D'ARCHE Sauternes 2007 Score: 86-89

Pleasant and balanced, with lemon, apple and honey character, medium body, medium sweetness and a crisp finish. —*J.S.*

CHÂTEAU CANTEGRIL Sauternes 2007 *Score: 85-88*

Aromas and flavors of tropical fruit, lemon curd and honey. Medium-bodied, with a delicate finish. —
J.S.