



Opening Offer

En Primeur

ESTD

1842



TANNERS
WINE MERCHANTS

*Dry White Bordeaux
2020*

Dry Whites

Bordeaux



Horse at work, Château Carbonnieux

An early harvest, for some only a day behind that of 2003, meant most white grapes were harvested in the third week of August, avoiding the heat that followed in September. Yields were good and balance of ripeness and acidity almost perfect, leading to full-flavoured yet poised wines that will age well. In effect this is a 'cooler' vintage than 2018, 2015 and 2009, more like the excellent 2017 that now has top reviews.

As expected, top properties across Bordeaux with more resources and facilities have made the highest scoring

white wines: Pavillon Blanc from Château Margaux and Haut-Brion Blanc lead the way for many critics. However we were really pleased with the performance of many on our tasting table back in April, so that while **Domaine de Chevalier** and **Aile d'Argent** (from Mouton-Rothschild) were terrific, lesser lights such as **Clos Floridène**, **Doisy-Daëne Sec** and the dependable **Carbonnieux** have made superb wines that you should certainly consider buying this year.

Clos des Lunes, Lune d'Argent, Bordeaux Sec

DCW02420 6bts £45

70% Sémillon 30% Sauvignon Blanc. Very pale, almost water white. Attractive nose of peach and honey, showing a little spice, very clean lemon citrus, lime too and some richer citrus oils. Riper and softer in the mouth, quite round and peachy, with soft chalky mineral quality, more spice and toast, and a long delicately fragrant finish. This really grew on us this year, super value, and something to drink rather than cellar. 2-5 years.

Château Doisy-Daëne, Bordeaux Grand Vin Sec, Dubourdieu

DCW01220 6bts £72

Pure Sauvignon, fermented and matured in oak for twelve months, with characteristic skin contact bringing a palpable sense of fuzzy peach skins. Notably perfumed and charged, there are some attractive notes of wood, hints of apricot and passion fruit. Rich on the attack showing excellent intensity and concentration, great energy, tangy acidity, and tension. Superb textures, lovely weight and power with a layered, salty mineral finish. 3-9 years.

Clos Floridène Blanc, Graves, Dubourdieu

DCW80320 6bts £72

Named after Denis and Florence Dubourdieu, who created the wine in 1982. 75% Sauvignon Blanc, 24% Sémillon, 1% Muscadelle, fermented and matured in oak for nine months. Showing a more focused and less exotic personality next to Doisy-Daëne, a greater sense of tension on the nose and no discernible oak. Very clean citrus and white fruits, with the barest hint of peach. Great energy and intensity, a touch lighter in body, a tangy and sappy feel with some chunky white fruit flavours. 2-7 years.

Château Lespault-Martillac Blanc, Pessac-Léognan

DCW02820 6bts £108

Produced from a single hectare planted to 80% Sauvignon Blanc and 20% Sémillon, fermented and matured in oak for 12 months, and produced by the same team as Domaine de Chevalier. This 2020 release kicks off with a cool, mineral focused, poolside nose, that builds in breadth and fat, a mix of sweet white fruits and delicate green herbs. Lovely fine textures on the palate, both creamy and silky, with a stimulating intensity that really grows. Great ingredients beautifully put together. 3-9+ years.

Château Olivier Blanc, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan

DCW02520 6bts £112.50

Based on Sauvignon Blanc, around 23% Sémillon, and a dash of Muscadelle. Both wines from Olivier really impressed us, the white displaying a charming, fragrant poised nose, a little sweetness of oak and lovely white peach fruit. Textured, ample and energetic in the mouth, with a tangy intensity, and a notably long and fragrant finish. 3-9+ years.



- Château Carbonnieux Blanc, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan** DCW02220 6bts £130.50
70% Sauvignon, 30% Sémillon, 10 months in oak (25% new). A gently pronounced nose offers concentrated oily citrus notes, grapefruit and pineapple, with some warmer, prettier, softer fruits too. The palate shows great intensity, a pleasingly rich feel, with stimulating lively acidity and a certain tension, becoming a little more refined towards the finish, culminating with some nicely integrated oak notes and a touch of orange rind. Lots to like here and plenty of potential. 3-9+ years.
- Château de Fieuzal, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan** DCW57120 6bts £210
75% Sauvignon, 25% Sémillon. Chunky, distinctive Sauvignon Blanc white fruits on the nose, with a little crunchy green veg – all very fresh and direct, supported by a touch of toast and grilled pineapple. The palate shows some breadth and a lightly creamy, silky texture, quite rounded, perfectly fresh and really nicely balanced. 2-7 years.
- Domaine de Chevalier Blanc, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan** DCW01920 6bts £399
70% Sauvignon Blanc, 30% Sémillon, fermented and matured in oak for 18 months. Without ever feeling too hefty, this shows great breadth and depth on the nose, fine citrus and perfumed grapefruit, all manner of white fruits and flowers, very pretty, silky and undulating. The palate is all about understated power and harmony, with excellent intensity and follow-through, a sappy grapefruit edge, pure lemon citrus fruit flavours, and an incredibly long, floral-tinged finish. If Domaine de Chevalier hasn't been on your radar, and you might be disenchanted by the price of grand cru White Burgundy... roll on up! 5-15 years.
- Aile d'Argent, Château Mouton Rothschild, Bordeaux** DCW03120 6bts £438
About 50% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Sémillon, 10% Sauvignon Gris and a dash of Muscadelle. This is the best dry white of the Médoc, in our opinion, this year. It has the most fantastic nose of blossom backed up by citrus peel and a hint of raw honey that precedes a richness on the palate, from the Sauvignon Gris grown at Mouton as well as intense gooseberry Sauvignon Blanc that blends so beautifully with layers of delicate oak. A wonderful creation this year with intensity, balance and charm. 5-15 years.