

2020 Vintage Primer

UNITED STATES ALUMNI

VINIV

BORDEAUX

A life explored, a story bottled



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The Winemaker, Reimagined

For many people, the possibility of becoming a winemaker is just a fantasy. No longer. VINIV offers you the opportunity to immerse yourself in a Bordeaux winemaking experience and create your own bespoke fine wine. No matter where you are located.

We provide access to vineyards in the region's most prestigious appellations, guidance from the winemaking experts of Château Lynch-Bages and an award-winning design team to create a personal brand to tell your own story.

You begin your wine journey by receiving barrel samples from our vineyards – your wine components – ahead of personal working sessions with our winemakers. You can complete any part of your winemaking journey remotely, in Bordeaux or at our events as the world reopens. But for now, discreetly explore and enjoy the finer things in life. Right where you are.



MEMBER TASTING THEIR BLENDS AT HOME GUIDED BY DANIEL LLOSE, CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES SENIOR WINEMAKING ADVISOR

“Located in Pauillac, a famous Cabernet Sauvignon-centric appellation on Bordeaux’s Left Bank, VINIV is owned and operated by the Cazes family, which owns Château Lynch-Bages. The DIY aspect allows well-heeled Bordeaux lovers to create their own blends from grapes grown in vineyards throughout Bordeaux’s storied appellations. The sweat equity is done by professional vintners and winemakers.

VINIV’s clients enjoy the more glamorous side of winemaking: barrel tastings, blending sessions to find the best formula for the wine, and, of course, the experience of visiting wine country and creating their own wines. There’s an element of star quality as well: Each team works closely with Daniel Llose, Lynch-Bages’ chief winemaker, on their blends.”

DAVE MCINTYRE, THE WASHINGTON POST

A Bordeaux Connection

VINIV is majority-owned by the Cazes family - proprietors of famed Château Lynch-Bages in Pauillac.

The Cazes family view VINIV members as fellow winemakers and friends. Their commitment to the client experience includes the direct guidance from their winemakers, access to several of the family's vineyards and wineries in Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe to bring your experience to life.

VINIV is based in the hamlet of Bages in Pauillac, alongside Château Lynch-Bages. It is less than one kilometre from **CHÂTEAU CORDEILLAN-BAGES** a Relais & Châteaux hotel operated by the family and a fifteen-minute drive from their bed and breakfast at **CHÂTEAU ORMES DE PEZ** in Saint-Estèphe.



JEAN-MICHEL CAZES AND JEAN-CHARLES CAZES,
OWNERS OF CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES

01.

VINIV at a Glance

How it Works

Your Bordeaux winemaking journey consists of three main activities:

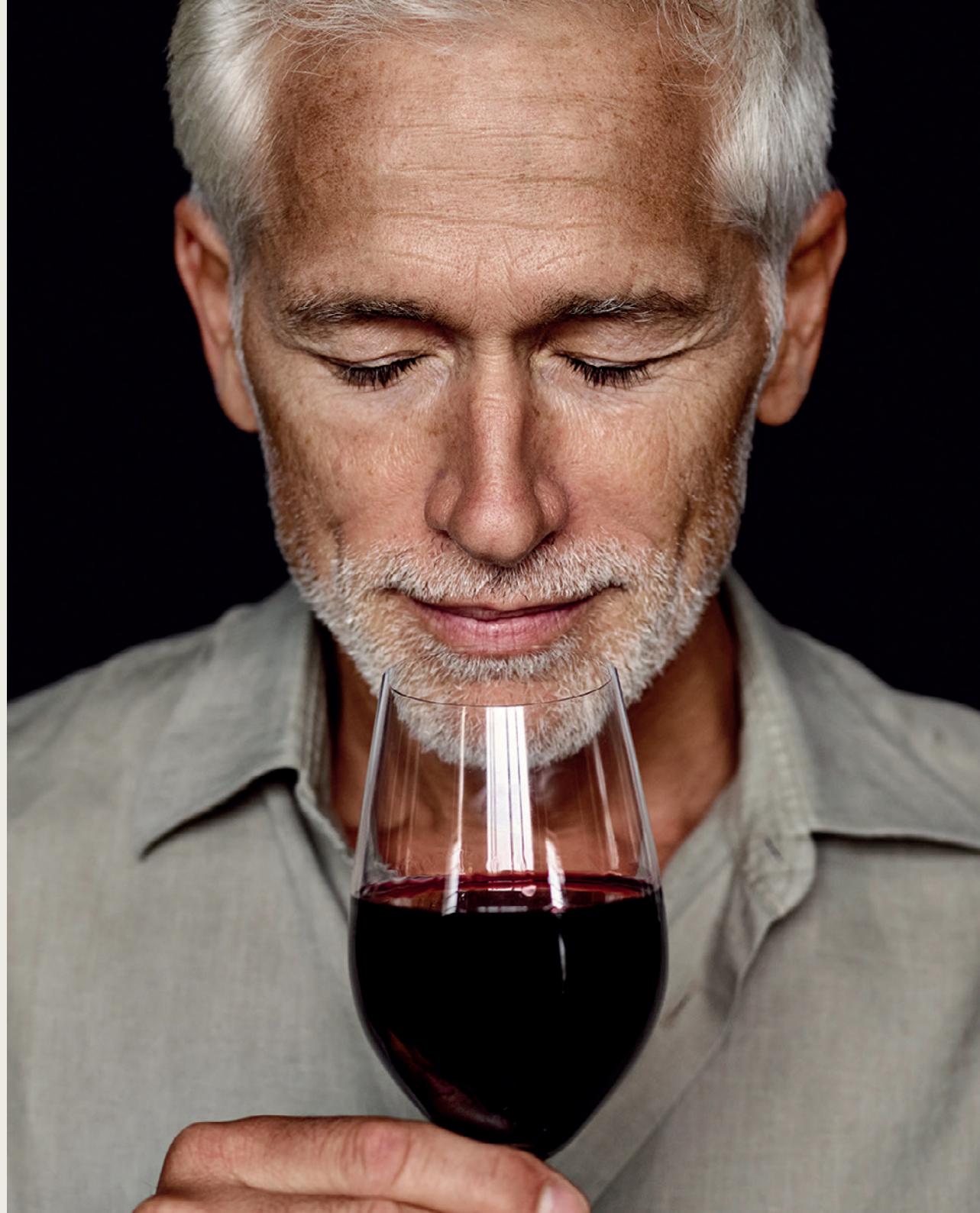
- Discovering the vineyards and available blend components
- Creating your bespoke blend
- Designing your personal brand and label

In most cases, clients come to VINIV in Bordeaux or our annual London event to work with our winemakers. But not always. With clients from all corners of the world, we've created ways to experience these activities remotely which are just as satisfying.

With current and ever-changing travel restrictions, you can begin your winemaking journey from the comfort of your own home. You and your winemaking partners will receive all that you need ahead of your private, remote sessions with our team.

Needless to say, you can complete any part of your winemaking journey in Bordeaux. But for now, we suggest taking the first step from right where you are.

[MORE DETAILS ON YOUR EXPERIENCE](#)



Discovering Your Vineyards & Wine Components



The first and all-important step in your journey is to discover the single-varietal wine from each of our 12 vineyards.

You will taste barrel samples of each wine available for your blend. This helps you to deepen your understanding of Bordeaux's appellations and taste the difference between the region's main varieties (Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc). Through this guided tasting, you will discover the true notion of 'terroir' – the influence that geology and climate have on each wine.



In a live, remote session we will guide you through this tasting in order for you to experience what makes the character of each blend component unique.

The aim is for you to begin to identify your wine and blend preferences ahead of your blending session – whether you will be doing that remotely, in Bordeaux or at our London blending event. If done remotely, you will receive fresh barrel samples from each vineyard a few days before your session takes place. These come in beautiful 10-centilitre vials where the wine is bottled in an inert environment to protect its freshness.

[MORE DETAILS ON YOUR VINEYARDS](#)

Creating Your Bespoke Blend



Your private blending sessions are the most important step in your winemaking journey. Whether you are working with the Château Lynch-Bages winemakers at VINIV or in London...



..or they are coming to you live right into your home. You will use your taste buds as your guide as they help you to create your ideal wine.

If you are working on your blend remotely, you will receive blend options ahead of your live working session with our winemakers. These wine blends are assembled based on your desired wine style and the preferences expressed during your wine component discovery session.

[MORE DETAILS ON BORDEAUX BLENDS](#)

Designing Your Personal Brand



How many times have you thought about what you would name your wine if you were a winemaker? Well, now is your opportunity.



VINIV members work remotely with Barlow & Co., our London-based designers who will guide you through the creative process of developing a brand and label to tell your story.

These award-winning wine brand designers will ensure that your packaging is presented with the same uniqueness and quality as the wine itself. Some clients come ready with their brand or design ideas from the start, others find their way with the help of our team.

[MORE DETAILS ON CREATING YOUR PERSONAL BRAND](#)

Your Investment

VINIV has three pricing options – ranging from \$19,300 to \$27,500 per barrel of 288 bottles (\$67 to \$96 per bottle) – depending on your selected vineyard sources.

The cost includes everything needed to create and brand your bespoke wine – whether you do this remotely or in Bordeaux – including ocean transport to the United States.

VINIV's production is limited due to the rarity of our vineyards. As a result, the ability to produce your wine is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A down payment of \$14,000 is required to confirm your reservation with the balance due just before bottling.

[MORE DETAILS ON PRICING](#)



Your 2020 Vineyards

As a VINIV winemaker, you can choose from a selection of exceptional vineyards to produce your bespoke wine.

With the guidance of our winemaking team, you will quickly discover the alchemy of blending and decide which combination of plots and grape varieties best match your wine-style objectives.



AN EXAMPLE OF WHERE ONE OF VINIV'S LEFT BANK VINEYARDS IS LOCATED. THIS IS JUILLAC, OUR CABERNET SAUVIGNON VINEYARD IN SAINT-JULIEN.

Our grapes are sourced from the finest old-vine vineyards in Bordeaux's most prestigious appellations. Some of our vineyards are owned by recognised 'classified-growths', while others belong to passionate, boutique growers whose vines adjoin the best properties in Margaux, Pauillac, Pomerol, Saint-Émilion, Fronsac, Saint-Estèphe and Saint-Julien.

VINIV gives you the opportunity to go beyond the boundaries of appellation by blending wine from vineyards within the best sectors on both the Left and Right Banks. This is an essential part of your singular winemaking story.



AN EXAMPLE OF WHERE ONE OF VINIV'S RIGHT BANK VINEYARDS IS LOCATED. THIS IS LA CARRIÈRE, OUR CABERNET FRANC VINEYARD IN SAINT-ÉMILION.

OVERHEAD VIEWS OF ALL VINEYARDS ARE AVAILABLE.



Bringing Your Wine Home

The final step of your winemaking journey.

Your wine will be bottled and delivered two years after harvest. For example, a 2020 vintage will be ready for delivery in the last quarter of 2022.

Your investment includes the shipment to the U.S. by ocean transport. Prior to shipment, VINIV will provide estimated costs for inland transport, applicable state tax and any U.S. import tariffs on French wine.

Bordeaux storage options are available should you wish to await the reversal of the recent excise taxes imposed on E.U. wines by the U.S.

Our Testimonials



"Hank Werronen has been a Bordeaux lover since his days in graduate school at Carnegie Mellon in the 1960s, when an oenophile professor introduced him to some of the world's finest. 'By the time I was 22, I had tasted all the great Bordeaux.' What's a wine lover to do when Bordeaux gets expensive? He recruited 14 friends to partake in winemaking at VINIV. They produced six barrels — each modelled after a leading château, with Palmer, Pichon Baron, Montrose, Figeac, Angelus and Smith Haut Lafitte providing inspiration."

THE WASHINGTON POST

"I had dreamed about someday buying a vineyard, but it's a very capital-intensive and thankless business," said Sébastien Boucraut, 46, a French commodities executive based in Dubai who flies in with two long-time friends to sample their VINIV creation. "I thought this was brilliant. You can make your own wine with all the advantages and none of the inconveniences."

THE NEW YORK TIMES



"I was at a point where I wanted to create something for myself. My passion for Bordeaux began on my honeymoon. So crafting my own wine was the perfect creative outlet. As I began my journey I had this 'aha' moment — my wine would mark my husband's 50th birthday. He loved it. So did I."

VINIV MEMBER



"Pete Johnson discovered VINIV in 2010 when a friend in a cigar club told him he was making his own wine in Bordeaux. 'I said: 'What do you mean you're making wine in Bordeaux? That's what I want to do.' Mr. Johnson, a custom cigar maker and entrepreneur in Los Angeles, has made five vintages since then. 'I am making the best possible wine for my palate.'"

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"We were planning our 30th college reunion. We wanted something different to mark the occasion. Over the years we hadn't changed that much. At least in our passion for wine. We booked our flights to Bordeaux and went to work with the winemaking team. We emerged with a deeper understanding of wine, and our friendships. Something we will celebrate every time we share a bottle of our creation."

VINIV MEMBER



"I knew after having my tonsils removed at the age of seven that one day I would be a surgeon. I knew in medical school when I discovered Bordeaux wines that one day I would buy a vineyard. I knew after I set up my medical practice and started a family that the vineyards were far away. I would never in my wildest dreams imagined that I could have it all."

VINIV MEMBER

02.

Your Wine

Your Bordeaux Blend

Your wine will be unlike any other classified-growth quality Bordeaux.

With few exceptions, Bordeaux wines are created by blending several different grape varieties together. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc represent 98% of the red grape varieties that are planted in the region. Each variety has its own characteristics and expresses itself best in different regions of Bordeaux. This is driven by climate, altitude and soil type. At the same time, each variety – on its own – can have limitations. This explains why the mastery of combining different grape varieties has in many ways sealed the global reputation of the best Bordeaux châteaux.

In Bordeaux, every château owner is confined to using grapes from their own property to commercially benefit from using the château name and single appellation on the label. For example, Château Lynch-Bages, owners of VINIV, benefits from the Pauillac appellation because all of its vineyards are located in Pauillac. Were they to use Merlot or Cabernet Franc from elsewhere, they would lose the right to the property name and the appellation.

[MORE DETAILS ON BORDEAUX GRAPE VARIETIES](#)



VINIV MEMBER CREATING HIS BLEND WITH LEADING OENOLOGIST ERIC BOISSENOT

What Makes Your Wine Distinctive

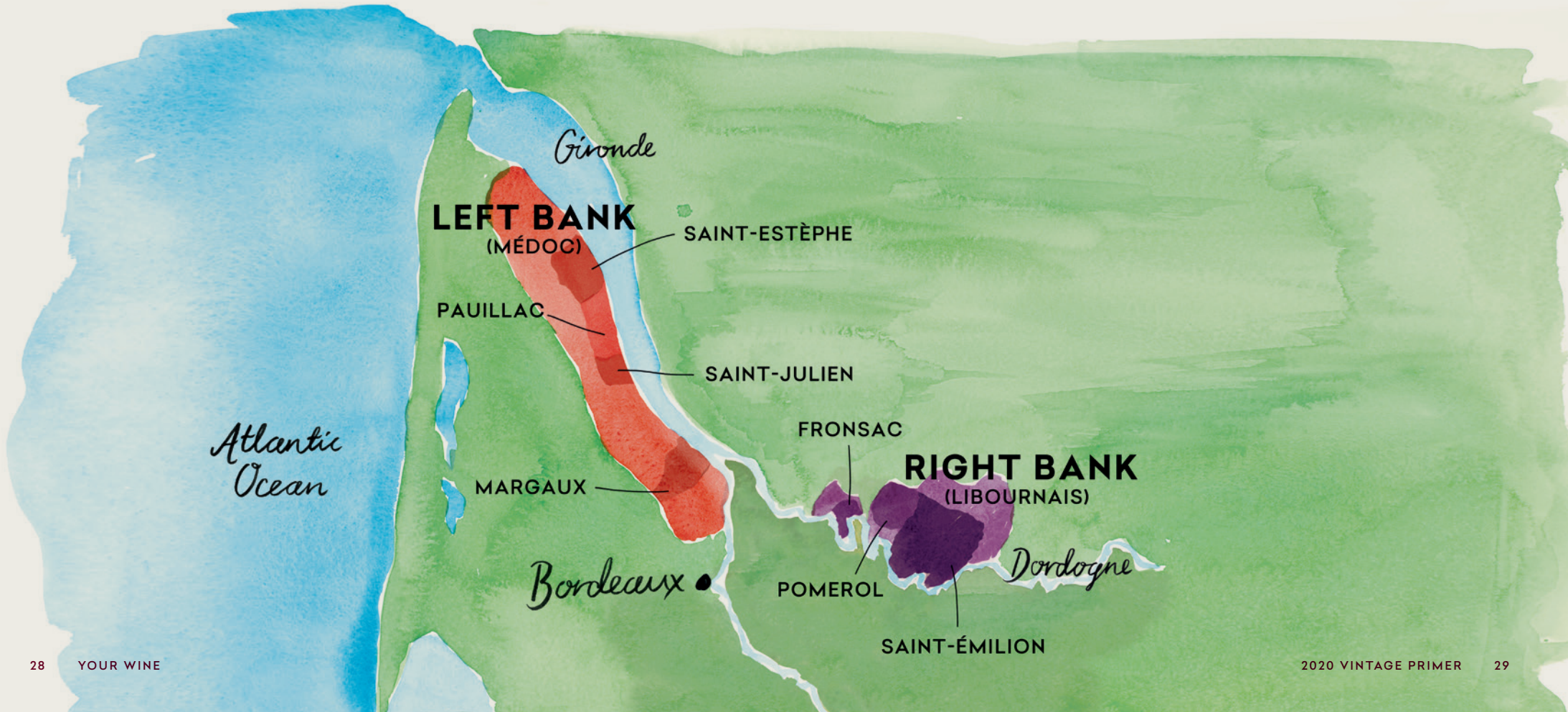
At VINIV, we are not confined by restrictions linked to a property name or an appellation. We simply source each grape variety where it grows the best. As a result, you will create a wine with its own unique origin and distinctive story.

VINIV only sources Cabernet Sauvignon from the most prestigious appellations of the Médoc (Margaux, Saint-Julien, Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe) and its Merlot and Cabernet Franc from the best sectors of Saint-Émilion, Pomerol and Fronsac.

WHY?

In the Médoc, referred to as Bordeaux's Left Bank, Cabernet Sauvignon is king. The region's warm gravel soils and more temperate weather allow this late-blooming varietal to reach its full potential.

On Bordeaux's Right Bank, also known as the Libournais, the cooler soils are the perfect setting for Merlot, a faster ripening varietal. Merlot dominates most Saint-Émilion and Pomerol blends from anywhere between 50 to 95%. Cabernet Franc is the perfect complement to Merlot, providing structure, lift and vibrancy to Merlot-dominated blends.



The 2020 Bordeaux Vintage as seen by our Winemakers

Bordeaux's 2020 vintage continues a string of seven vintages of excellent quality wines. If it's the first time that you are considering making a wine with VINIV it's an excellent vintage to start.

“2020 is an interesting vintage because of its elegance. It is full of tannins, yet it's not overly powering thanks to its freshness and fruit. VINIV's parcels demonstrate this across all of our appellations.”



DANIEL LLOSE
SENIOR WINEMAKING ADVISOR - CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES

For 44 years, Daniel was technical director for all Cazes family estates. He was responsible for the modernisation of Château Lynch-Bages in Pauillac and Château Ormes de Pez in Saint-Estèphe in the 1970s and 80s, resulting in their resurgent reputation. Daniel was also technical advisor for Château Pichon Longueville Baron in Pauillac, Château Petit-Village in Pomerol and Château Suduiraut in Sauternes.

“2020 is another vintage that hits a high mark of quality. Good weather conditions across Bordeaux make this a very balanced vintage where the fruit can express itself in its own way. It will make blending with clients a real pleasure and even we discover something new every time.”



NICOLAS LABENNE
WINEMAKER - CHÂTEAU LYNCH BAGES & ORMES DE PEZ

Nicolas is the head winemaker for Château Lynch-Bages in Pauillac and Château Ormes de Pez in Saint-Estèphe. He began his career at Château Lafite-Rothschild and was technical director at Château Calon-Segur in Saint-Estèphe for twelve years before joining the Cazes family estates in 2006.

“2020 was a solar vintage, with a touch less richness than the equally excellent 2019 vintage. There is a bit more finesse in the tannins in this vintage, placing the focus clearly on the elegance and balance of the wines. It will be another top vintage in a string of excellent wines since 2000.”



ERIC BOISSENOT
OENOLOGIST AND VINIV MEMBER ADVISOR

Named the 'world's most influential wine consultant', Eric is widely considered to be the oenologist-of-choice in the Médoc. His client base includes Lafite Rothschild, Mouton Rothschild, Margaux, Latour, Palmer, Pichon Comtesse, Pichon Baron, Ducru-Beaucaillou, Léoville Barton and Léoville Las Cases. Eric advises VINIV on all aspects of viticulture and winemaking and guides members on their final blending at specific times of the year.

“Our most recent tasting of each component shows fruit-driven and opulent wines that have lost none of their freshness and acidity. The structure and tannins are all there and beautifully wrapped in a velvet glove.”



LAËTITIA RAMEAU
WINEMAKER - CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES

Laëtitia is second-in-command of winemaking at Château Lynch-Bages. She is also responsible for the VINIV winemaking operations. She previously worked at Château La Lagune, a Médoc third-classified growth.

The Birth of Your Wine Brand

Unleash your creativity with a label and packaging that tells your own story. You will be guided by our award-winning, London-based design team.

You will work with our design partner – Barlow & Co. – to create a bespoke label which will be a vivid testament to where you have been and where you are going.

If you are making a barrel as a collective experience with others, you have the option to design an additional three labels per barrel. That way each member can create their own brand and narrative.

When it comes time to packaging, we offer you the option of different bottle formats (including 1.5-litre Magnums and 3-litre Double Magnums) along with personalised corks and wooden cases.



BESPOKE WINE BRANDS CREATED BY VINIV MEMBERS

03.

Your Experience

FROM HOME AND AWAY

VINIV in Six Steps

Step 1



RESERVE YOUR BARREL

VINIV's production is limited due to the rarity of our vineyards. As a result, the ability to produce your wine is available on a first-come, first-served basis. A down payment is required to confirm your reservation with the balance due just before bottling.

Step 2



PLAN YOUR WINE JOURNEY WITH OUR TEAM

VINIV will organise a planning session call with you to further discuss your bespoke experience. What style of wine will you produce? What story do you wish to tell with your brand? We will explain each of the different yet equally exciting steps of this journey – from grape to glass.

Step 3



CREATE YOUR BESPOKE WINE BRAND WITH OUR DESIGNERS

Our London-based design team will guide you through the creative process of developing a label and packaging which tells your story. These award-winning wine brand designers will ensure that your wine is presented with the same uniqueness and quality as the wine itself.

Step 4



DISCOVER YOUR BLEND COMPONENTS WITH OUR TEAM

You will taste barrel samples of all 12 of our single-varietal wines available for your blend. This helps you to you deepen your understanding of Bordeaux, taste the difference between the region's main varietals and discover the true notion of 'terroir': the influence that geology and climate has on each wine.

This session is typically done remotely. You will receive barrel samples from each vineyard in beautiful 10-centiliter vials ahead of your live session with our team. The session can also take place at VINIV or at our annual final blending session in London.

Regardless of your choice, we will guide you through the tasting of your components so that you can begin to identify your wine and blend preferences ahead of your blending session.

Step 5



CREATE YOUR BESPOKE BLEND WITH OUR WINEMAKERS

Your private blending sessions are the most important step in your winemaking journey. Whether you are working with the Château Lynch-Bages winemakers at VINIV or in London – or they are coming to you live right into your living room – you will use your taste buds as your guide as they help you to create your ideal wine.

If you are working on your blend remotely, you will receive blend options from our winemakers ahead of your session constructed based on your input from your wine component discovery session.

Step 6













BRINGING YOUR WINE HOME

Bringing your wine home is the last step of your winemaking journey. Your wine will be bottled and delivered two years after harvest. (For example, a 2020 vintage will be ready for delivery in the last quarter of 2022). Depending on where you choose to ship your wine, there are transport costs, sales taxes (VAT) and import duties to consider. Our team will work with you to understand your shipping options and estimated cost.

Your Experience, As You Want It

You can enjoy the VINIV experience from home, at our winery in Pauillac or at our annual blending event in London. Whether you are making a wine on your own, with family and friends or as part of a larger initiative, our team of winemakers and brand design specialists will guide you every step of way. See below for how each step of your journey can or will take place.

	<i>Step 1</i>	<i>Step 2</i>	<i>Step 3</i>	<i>Step 4</i>	<i>Step 5</i>	<i>Step 6</i>
	RESERVE YOUR BARREL	PLAN YOUR WINE JOURNEY WITH OUR TEAM	CREATE YOUR BESPOKE WINE BRAND WITH OUR DESIGNERS	DISCOVER YOUR BLEND COMPONENTS WITH OUR TEAM	CREATE YOUR BESPOKE BLEND WITH OUR WINEMAKERS	BRINGING YOUR WINE HOME
	VINIV's production is limited due to the rarity of our vineyards. A down payment is required to confirm your reservation.	During this call we outline each step of your bespoke experience from wine to label.	You are guided through the creative process of developing a brand which tells your story by our award-winning design team.	In a live, remote session we will guide you through a discovery and tasting of all 12 vineyards. Your impressions will be the starting point for your bespoke blend.	Using your taste buds as your guide, your private blending sessions take place directly with the Château Lynch-Bages winemakers.	Your wine is bottled and delivered two years after harvest. Our team will work with you to outline your shipping options and estimated cost.
AT YOUR HOME OR OFFICE						
AT VINIV IN PAUILLAC						
AT OUR ANNUAL LONDON BLENDING EVENT						

Winemaking Process & Your Experience Timeline

You can make a 2020 Vintage wine any time before end-January 2022 (subject to availability).





VINIV MEMBER TASTING THEIR WINE COMPONENTS FROM HOME, GUIDED BY A MEMBER OF OUR WINEMAKING TEAM.

Your Optional Events

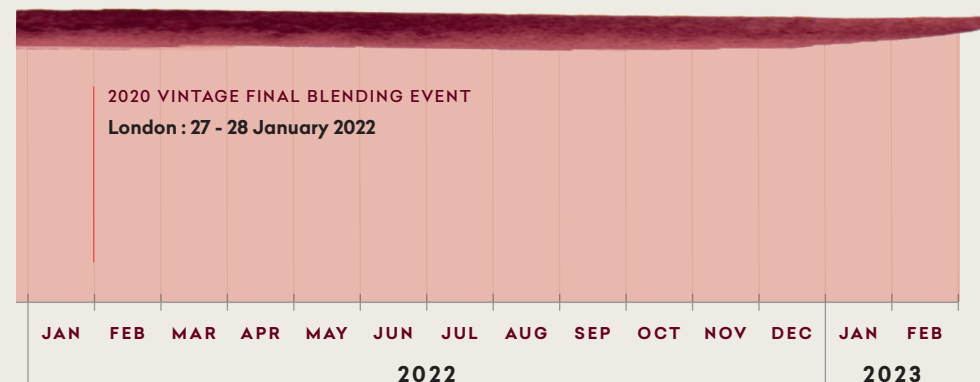
Unfortunately, we have reduced our schedule of events due to COVID-19 and social-distancing requirements.

2020 vintage winemakers will be invited to event options for the following vintage.



2020 VINTAGE LONDON FINAL BLENDING EVENT

An annual event popular with members, the London final blending sessions will be held in January 2022 (COVID permitting). For some of you this might be your first opportunity to blend. For others, this is the last opportunity to revisit your blend and finalise it before your wine is bottled.



04.

Your Investment

Pricing Options - Alumni

Premium

\$ 19,300 (\$67.01/btl)

INCLUDES OCEAN TRANSPORT TO US EAST OR WEST COAST PORT.

Create one barrel (288 bottles) of your wine from VINIV's seven Premium vineyards.

Elite

\$ 23,400 (\$81.25/btl)

INCLUDES OCEAN TRANSPORT TO US EAST OR WEST COAST PORT.

Further access to five of VINIV's Elite vineyards for up to 50% of your blend.

Exclusive

\$ 27,500 (\$95.49/btl)

INCLUDES OCEAN TRANSPORT TO US EAST OR WEST COAST PORT.

Unlimited blending with all VINIV vineyards.



You will enjoy the full VINIV winemaking experience and invitation to events.

You will enjoy the full VINIV winemaking experience and invitation to events.

You will enjoy the full VINIV winemaking experience and invitation to events.



Access to VINIV's seven (7) Premium classified-growth quality vineyards from Saint-Émilion, Fronsac, Margaux, Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe.

Access to VINIV's seven (7) Premium classified-growth quality vineyards from Saint-Émilion, Margaux, Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe.

Access to VINIV's seven (7) Premium classified-growth quality vineyards from Saint-Émilion, Margaux, Pauillac and Saint-Estèphe.

Up to 50% usage in your blend from VINIV's five (5) Elite vineyards belonging to our classified-growth partners in Margaux and Pauillac and our rarest plots in Saint-Émilion, Saint-Julien and Pomerol.

Unlimited access to VINIV's five (5) Elite vineyards belonging to our classified-growth partners in Margaux and Pauillac and our rarest plots in Saint-Émilion, Saint-Julien and Pomerol.



- Your own bespoke label
- Your choice of 75cl bottles and/or 1.5L magnums

- Your own bespoke label
- Your choice of 75cl bottles and/or 1.5L magnums

- Your own bespoke label
- Your choice between 75cl bottles and/or 1.5L magnums
- Six 3L Double Magnums



- Standard unbranded cork and wooden case

- Standard unbranded cork and wooden case

- Branded cork and wooden case



Optional paid upgrades :

- Six 3L Double Magnums (\$2,200)
- Personalised corks and wooden cases (\$1,320 per barrel)
- Up to three additional labels per barrel (\$2,200 per label)

Optional paid upgrades :

- Six 3L Double Magnums (\$2,200)
- Personalised corks and wooden cases (\$1,320 per barrel)
- Up to three additional labels per barrel (\$2,200 per label)

Optional paid upgrades :

- Up to three additional labels per barrel (\$2,200 per label)

What Is Not Included



INLAND U.S. TRANSPORT

Your investment includes the shipment to the U.S. by ocean transport. Our U.S. members are only liable for the shipping cost of from the U.S. port to your final selected destination.

For shipping all 288 bottles to one location, rates typically ranges from \$2 - \$7 per bottle.

VINIV will work with you and our logistics partner to quote and organise your delivery.



LOCAL TAXES

You will be liable for any U.S. import tariffs on French wines and state taxes (if applicable).

We will provide estimated costs at time of order, based on current tax rules. Final costs will be confirmed prior to shipment. Bordeaux storage options are available should you wish to await the reversal of the recent excise taxes imposed on E.U. wines by the U.S.



OPTIONAL EVENTS

Hospitality and event costs such as hotels, meals, transport and winery visit fees (other than Château Lynch-Bages) are not included in the cost of your experience. Any event costs are communicated in advance.

Barrel Down Payment



RESERVE YOUR BARREL ALLOCATION

Your winemaking journey begins once you have decided to reserve one or several barrels for production.

We accept orders between September 2020 and end-January 2022. The earlier that you do this the better, as we have limited availability.



DOWN PAYMENT

A down payment of \$14,000 per barrel is required to confirm your allocation. The balance, based on your final blend and any packaging options, is due just before bottling in May 2022.

05.

Your Vineyards

Your 2020 Vineyards

MERLOT

VINEYARD	APPELLATION	PREMIUM	ELITE	EXCLUSIVE
1. La Plateau	Fronsac	✓	✓	✓
2. La Pierre	Saint-Émilion	✓	✓	✓
3. La Pyramide	Saint-Émilion	✓	✓	✓
4. Les Terrasses	Saint-Émilion		✓ 50%*	✓
5. Colette	Pomerol		✓ 50%*	✓

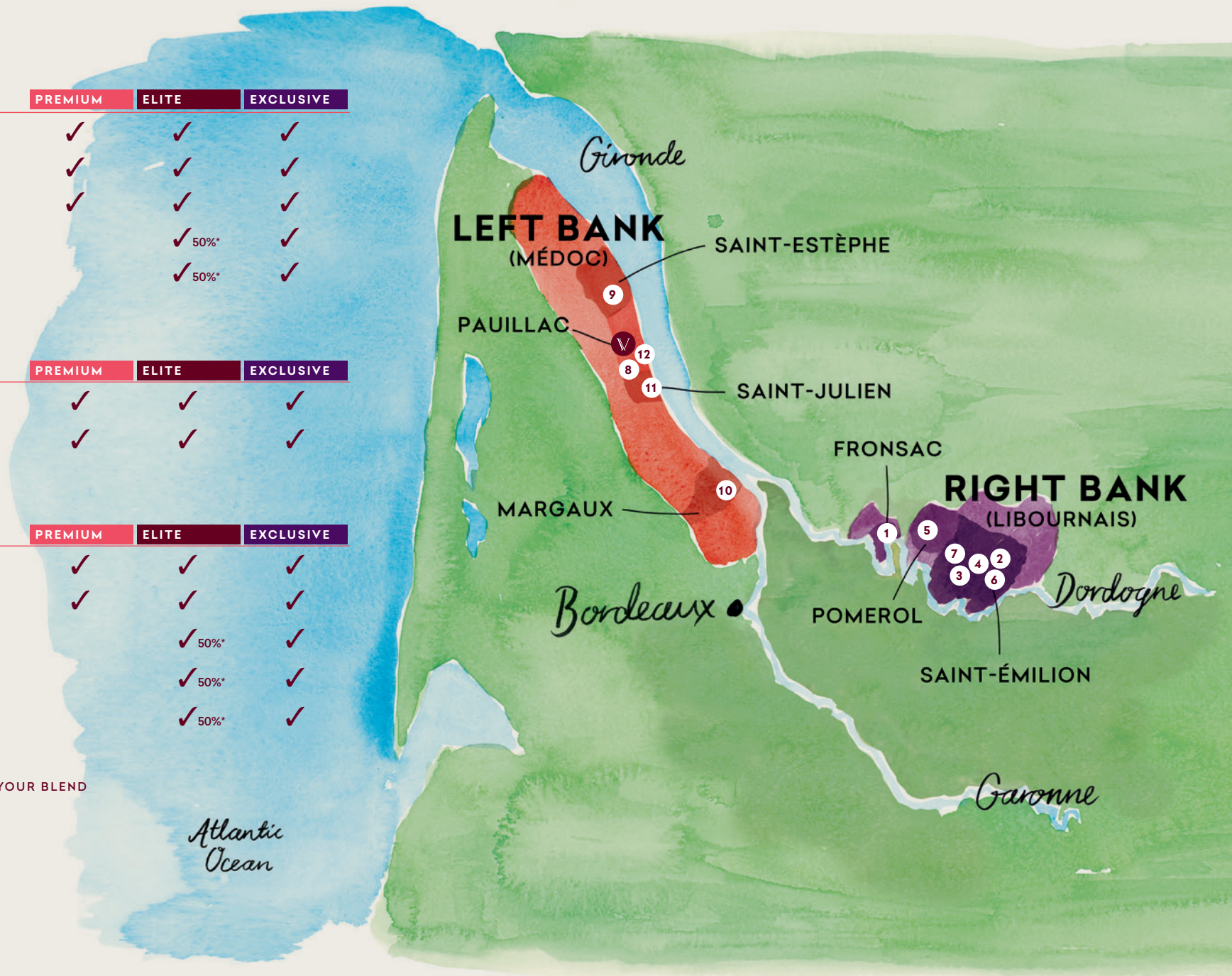
CABERNET FRANC

VINEYARD	APPELLATION	PREMIUM	ELITE	EXCLUSIVE
6. Le Barrail	Saint-Émilion	✓	✓	✓
7. La Carrière	Saint-Émilion	✓	✓	✓

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

VINEYARD	APPELLATION	PREMIUM	ELITE	EXCLUSIVE
8. Grande Catélie	Pauillac	✓	✓	✓
9. Demi-Lune	Saint-Estèphe	✓	✓	✓
10. Le Marquis	Margaux		✓ 50%*	✓
11. Juillac	Saint-Julien		✓ 50%*	✓
12. L'Enclos	Pauillac		✓ 50%*	✓

* ELITE VINEYARDS FOR UP TO 50% OF YOUR BLEND



Merlot

VARIETAL DESCRIPTION

The most widely planted grape varietal in Bordeaux, Merlot is also the most adaptable to the overall region. It finds its greatest expression on the clay and limestone soils of Bordeaux's Right Bank (Saint-Émilion, Pomerol and Fronsac), where VINIV's vineyards are located. Merlot is precocious at budburst and ripens more quickly than Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, making it particularly suitable to these soils.

Merlot produces round, colourful wines that tend to evolve more quickly than Cabernet Sauvignon. These wines develop aromas of ripe fruit (cassis, strawberry) and can evolve towards fleshy red fruits like plum, fig as well as roasted notes with longer ageing.

YOUR VINEYARDS

	VINEYARD	APPELLATION	NEIGHBOURS	DESCRIPTION
1.	La Plateau PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Fronsac	Moulin Pey Labrie, Vrai Canon Bouché	A balance between fruit and structure, without ever overpowering a blend.
2.	La Pierre PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Émilion	Valandraud, Peby-Faugères, Faugères, Pressac	A vibrant, tannic and expressive wine with a lengthy finish.
3.	La Pyramide PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Émilion	Tertre Roteboeuf, La Mondotte, Pavie	An intense and powerful Merlot. Tension combined with elegance.
4.	Les Terrasses ELITE (50%) EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Émilion	Tertre Roteboeuf, La Mondotte, Barde-Haut, Godeau	Full-bodied wine which maintains incredible freshness.
5.	Colette ELITE (50%) EXCLUSIVE	Pomerol	Beauregard, Taillefer Figeac (Saint-Émilion)	Expressive, creamy, velvety Pomerol Merlot.



Cabernet Franc

VARIETAL DESCRIPTION

Cabernet Franc is the third most planted grape varietal in Bordeaux, after Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. It is particularly adaptable to cooler climates and soil – such as those found in Saint-Émilion and surrounding areas – because it matures more rapidly than Cabernet Sauvignon and tends to resist late-season weather variations.

Cabernet Franc produces a medium-bodied wine with impressive aromas and more pronounced fruit than Cabernet Sauvignon. Cabernet Franc planted at higher elevation can also denote hints of spice and dark pepper, providing an additional layer of complexity. This varietal is most famously combined with Merlot at levels up to 50% in Saint-Émilion and Pomerol blends to provide freshness and structure. It is also found in most Médoc blends in proportions of anywhere from 5% to 20%.

At VINIV, some of our most impressive wines have been those produced by members who have chosen Cabernet Franc as their dominant blend component.

YOUR VINEYARDS

VINEYARD	APPELLATION	NEIGHBOURS	DESCRIPTION
6. Le Barrail PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Émilion	Faugères, Valandraud, RoI Valentin, Fleur Cardinale, Pressac	The purity, lift and aromatics of a Cabernet Franc without the spicy notes.
7. La Carrière PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Émilion	Pavie, Troplong Mondot, La Mondotte, Larcis Ducasse	A hilltop Cabernet Franc with freshness, vibrancy and a hint of spice.



Cabernet Sauvignon

VARIETAL DESCRIPTION

Cabernet Sauvignon is most recognised for its exceptional structure, ageing potential and ability to reveal the expression of its 'terroir'. This varietal thrives in warmer soils and finds its greatest expression in the gravel sectors of Bordeaux's Left Bank, where VINIV's vineyards are exclusively located. Cabernet Sauvignon dominates the blend of virtually all of the Médoc 1855 Classified Growths. When young, these wines are very tannic with a rich colour and red/black fruit characteristics that evoke cassis, spice, pepper, chocolate and mint. As these wines age, they reveal all of the elegance and finesse of this exceptional grape varietal.

YOUR VINEYARDS

	VINEYARD	APPELLATION	NEIGHBOURS	DESCRIPTION
8.	Grande Catélie PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Pauillac	Pichon Baron, Lynch-Bages, Grand-Puy-Lacoste, Latour	All the power and structure of a Pauillac Cabernet Sauvignon with a slightly more delicate edge.
9.	Demi-Lune PREMIUM ELITE EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Estèphe	Ormes de Pez, Phélan-Ségur, Montrose	Very expressive fruit and fine grain tannins define this wine, which sits on ideal Saint-Estèphe terroir.
10.	Le Marquis ELITE (50%) EXCLUSIVE	Margaux	Palmer, Rauzan Ségla, Lascombes	New partner Château Marquis de Terme provides us a powerful yet ethereal Cabernet from Margaux's quality epicentre.
11.	Juillac ELITE (50%) EXCLUSIVE	Saint-Julien	Léoville Las Cases, Léoville Poyferré	A harmonious wine, combining elegance and finesse, expressive fruit and velvety tannins, power and opulence.
12.	L'Enclos ELITE (50%) EXCLUSIVE	Pauillac	Lynch-Bages	A denser more powerful Pauillac Cabernet Sauvignon, thanks to its warmer soil and unique microclimate.



*I'm not just making a wine,
I'm making a memory*



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