



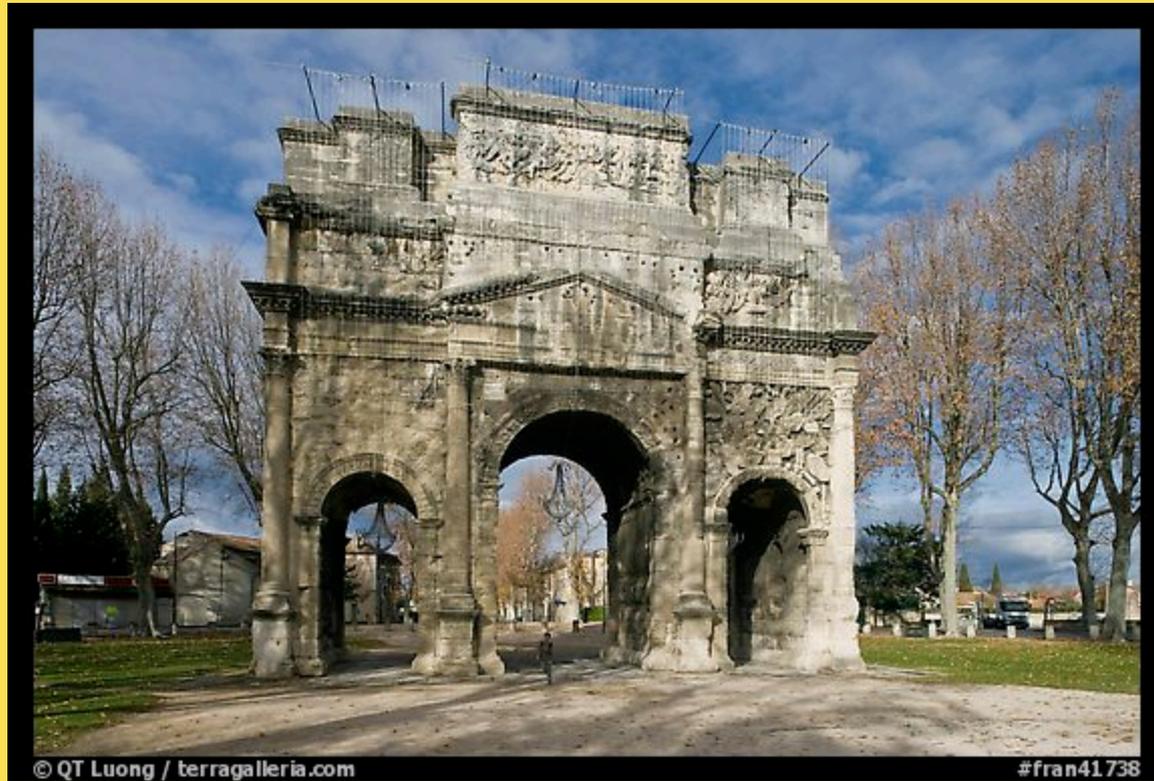
St. Emilion: The terroir of Poetry

**The story and history of France's
unique wine region**

St. Emilion

- Not only is it a region that produces wines of legendary quality; those very vineyards have been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- The city of St. Emilion would draw tourists from around the world to its historic architectural treasures even if there were no wine there at all.

It all began...with the Romans



Romans and Osonius--Chateau Ausone
The wine, even then, inspired odes.

The Dark Ages



**The Franks and the Moors: Charlemagne and Roncevalles
Chateau Charlemagne**

St. Emilion himself: A Pilgrim to Santiago



The Flowering of Aquitaine



**Eleanor of Aquitaine:
The Jurade of St. Emilion gives autonomy
to the region under the “English”**

The Hundred Years' War

**Is this England, or France?
And do they speak English
or French in London?**



The “Jurade” today

- It allowed St. Emilion to have far greater control over the production and sales of wines from the area
- It proved to be a key element in developing a reputation for quality and integrity.
- Today there is a unique certification system...

The Sun King

**Paris is the center of France.
Bordeaux is not just on the edge
of the water, it's on the edge of
the realm.**

Annexed in 1653

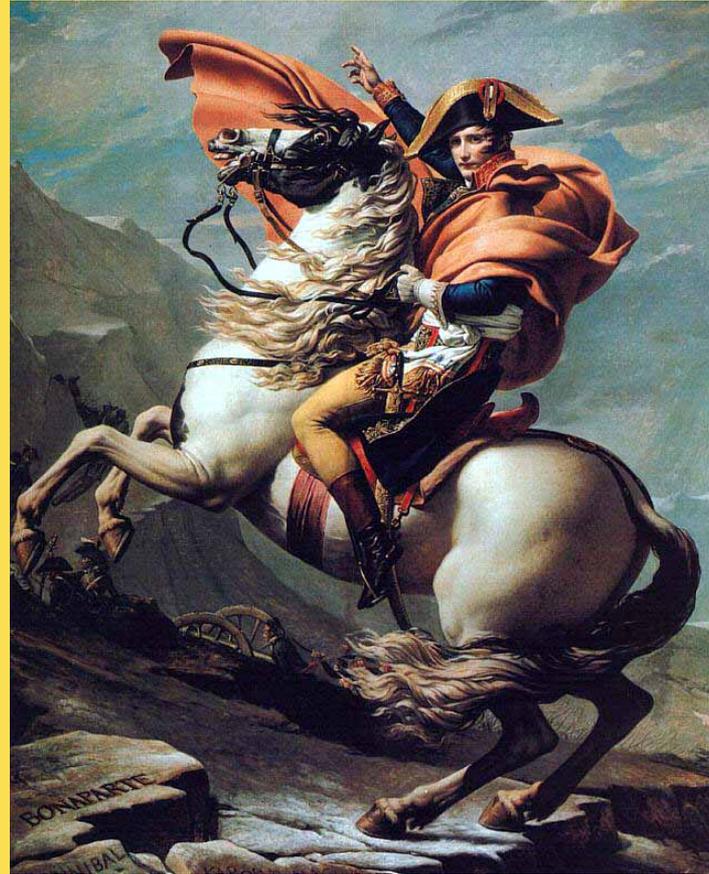


The English



The first market—and a lasting relationship

Napoleon and the Empire



Chateau Austerlitz

This is France: it must be terroir

- This is the land of Merlot. Gentle slopes with a high portion clay and limestone



Right Bank

- A temperate climate on the Right Bank of Bordeaux produces the greatest examples in the world of Merlot.



Is it only Merlot?

- Nearly two-thirds of the vines in St. Emilion are Merlot, with smaller percentages of Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, and a trace of Malbec

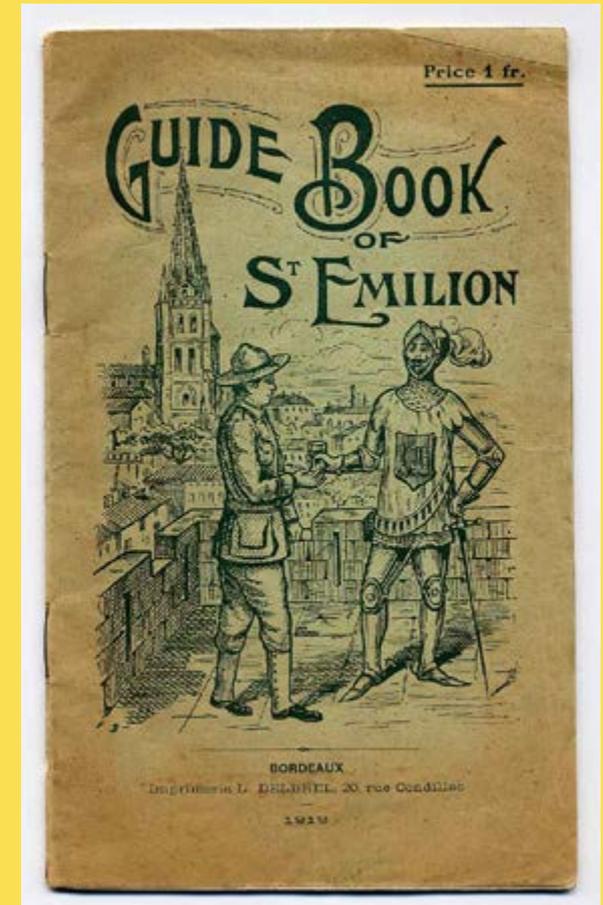


Jewel Boxes: 12 acres average vineyard size



The Classification:

- Every ten years, a complete re-evaluation of every chateau.
- A panel of experts tastes ten vintages of each chateau.
- The classification lasts for ten years.
- Last done in 2012.



2009

- For winemakers, the 2009 growing season was perfect. Dany Rolland, who makes the wine at the Michel Rolland family properties in Fronsac and Pomerol, describes this as a "a vintage à la carte, when we could pick when we wanted without having to worry about our usual enemy, rain. The grapes had the same quality as 1982, maybe even better, almost the best in my experience."

Chateau Villemaurine



Purchased by Justin Onclin in 2007, Château Villemaurine is situated close the center of the medieval town of Saint-Emilion and has an amazing network of underground quarries dating from the 18th century.

Chateau Villemaurine 2009

- Blend: 95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc.
- Vineyard: bud pruning, removing side shoots, and green harvesting are all done by hand and adapted to each separate vine.
- Natural methods are used, complemented by the most up-to-date winegrowing techniques. \$57

Château Grand Pontet



Formerly owned by Barton & Guestier, Grand Pontet has belonged to a family-owned company since 1980. Located on the plateau west of the medieval town of Saint-Emilion, the terroir consists of three types of soil:

- superficial soil on limestone
- clay-limestone soil
- sandy soil on a clay-limestone subsoil

Château Grand Pontet 2009

- The grapes are sorted once in the vineyard and again in the cellar. They are fermented whole, without the addition of cultured yeast.
- The wine stays on the skins for 3-5 weeks, depending on the vintage, in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks.
- Malolactic fermentation takes place in new barrels, 60-80% new oak, ageing for 14-18 months.
- Production: Approximately 55,000 bottles
- Consulting oenologist: Jean-Philippe Fort, Rolland Laboratory, \$47.

Château Fonplégade



Since Roman times, the “Côte Sud” of the Saint-Emilion slope has been hallowed ground for winegrowers. Nestled amidst this idyllic setting, below ancient Roman paths and graceful vine rows, is the fountain of Château Fonplégade. This fountain is steeped in history. More than just being the source of Fonplégade’s name (literally “fountain of plenty”), for millennia it has quenched the thirst of pilgrims, and offered sustenance to the grape vines in the driest of years.

Château Fonplégade 2009

- VATS: Wooden vats with tronconic shape; 35 to 40 days
- BARRELS: 100% new French oak, 18 to 24 months
- BLEND: 92% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 2% Cabernet Sauvignon
- PRODUCTION: 2,700 cases
- Dense purple color with aromas of graphite, blueberries, blackberries and ink. Large-scaled with full-bodied power, sweet tannins, and a layered mouthfeel.
- Needs 4-5 years of cellaring, and should evolve for 25+. (Robert Parker) \$57

Château Fonroque



Château Fonroque is the birthplace of the Moueix family in Saint-Emilion. This property was bought in 1931 by Jean and Adèle, the great grandparents of Alain Moueix, who is now director of this lovely wine estate.

Château Fonroque 2009

- The wine is very pure, well-balanced and expresses really well the mineral aspect of the limestone "terroir".
- Area : 17,60 hectare(s)
- Soils : Limestone on the plateau / clay-limestone on the hillside
- Varieties of vine : 85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc
- Average age of the vines : 35 years
- Annual production : 50,000 bottles \$40

2010

- The 2010 vintage was marked by two important features in terms of climate: as in 2005, it was very dry (the same overall rainfall, but different distribution), the variation in temperature (between day and night) was around 15°C throughout the summer.

Château Grand Corbin



The historic area of Corbin is an ancient land, situated on the northwestern part of the Saint-Emilion plateau. Over many generations the ancient feudal domain was divided, creating six properties bearing the Corbin name.

On September 6, 2012. Château Haut Corbin and Château Grand Corbin were both awarded classed-growth status and authorization was granted to unite them. In its new configuration the domain is once again known as Château Grand Corbin.

Château Grand Corbin 2010

- Vineyard area : 28,5 hectares
- Geology : light sands over blue clays
- Average age of vines : 40 years
- Grape varieties : 70% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Harvest : Sorting handpicked grapes and post-destemming sorting
- Type of vats : wooden and cement vats
- Ageing : 12 months in French oak barrels, 50% new
- Total production : 85,000 bottles. \$37

Clos des Jacobins



Established in the 17th century, Clos des Jacobins is situated at the entrance to the medieval town of Saint-Emilion. Having been ranked amongst Saint-Emilion's greatest wines between 1940 and 1950, Clos des Jacobins subsequently fell from favor, although it has been classified from the beginning of the Saint-Emilion classification in 1955. Today, it has recovered its status.

Clos des Jacobins 2010

- Area under vine: 8,5 hectares / Pied de côte ("foot of the slope")
- South-facing, limestone rock, clay and limestone scree
- Grape varieties: 80% Merlot 18 % Cabernet-Franc 2 % Cabernet-Sauvignon
- Average age of the vines: 30 years
- Vine density: 8,500 vines per hectare
- Grapes are handpicked into small crates, sorted by hand and then with an optical sorting system
- Ageing: 18 month in barrels (80 % new)
- Production: 40,000 bottles a year. \$54

Château Laroze



In 1610, the Gurchy family were winegrowers in Saint-Emilion. In 1882 the family estate of Laroze was founded. Its 67-acre vineyard is located at the foot of the hill to the north-west of the medieval village of Saint-Emilion. The quality of the vineyard is very favorable for Cabernet Franc grapes.

Château Laroze 2010

Grand Cru Classé from the first classification in 1955.

- Soil: Silica over a layer of clay
- Varietals: 68% Merlot, 26% Cabernet Franc, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Hand harvested
- Stainless steel and concrete vats
- Aged in oak barrels, 65% new barrels, for 16 months
- Average production: 80,000 bottles. \$39

Château Faugères



The Esquissaud family acquired the estates of Châteaux Faugères and Péby Faugères in 1823. In 1987 the land was inherited by Pierre-Bernard Guisez, who set out on a quest for the finest quality. That wish was fulfilled in a short time with the help of Michel Rolland. In March 2005, the property was acquired by Silvio Denz - a perfume designer, lover of fine wines, owner of Lalique and of two wine merchants in Zurich, as well as Switzerland's largest wine auctioneers, " Les Grands Vins Wermuth S.A." His portfolio also includes Château de Chambrun in AOC Lalande de Pomerol and Montepeloso in Tuscany, and he is associated with the Clos d'Agon vineyard in Catalonia.

Château Faugères 2010

- The terroir consists of a limestone plateau and a clay and limestone slope, enabling the vines to take deep root. It has demonstrated its potential to produce quality over the years, and 2010 was no exception. \$40
- Blend:
 - Merlot : 85%
 - Cabernet franc : 10%
 - Cabernet-sauvignon : 5%

St. Emilion

Terroir of Poetry

