**Tasting Notes**

**WSTA Trade Tasting: Bordeaux vintages 2020 to 2023**

8th October 2024

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| Chateau  | Growth  | Region | Vintage | Tasting Note | Team Score |
| Château Canon La Gaffelière | GCCB | Saint-Emilion | 2020 | *Blackcurrants, black plum, cherries combined with blue and red fruits. A highly fruit driven vintage, with great ageing potential.* | 91/100 |
| Château Canon La Gaffelière | GCCB | Saint-Emilion | 2021 | *Very enticing on the nose, with aromatic character combined with complexity of oak, black fruit and crushed black pepper. Still a bit tense, and fruit will evolve nicely over time.* | 92/100 |
| Château Canon La Gaffelière | GCCB | Saint-Emilion | 2022 | *Inviting aromas of violets, with generous fruit concentration. The 2021 showed the best out of the Canon La Gaffelière’s, excellent balance with velvety mouthfeel and silky tannins. We expect it to age gracefully over the next 5-8 years.* | 94/100 |
| Château Canon La Gaffelière | GCCB | Saint-Emilion | 2023 | *Understandably tense at this stage, blueberry, sour cherries, fresh acidity but could age nicely for 10 years, cinnamon and hints of chocolate.* | 93/100 |
| Château Gazin | N/a | Pomerol  | 2022 | *Subtle floral aromas of violet, cedar, cured meat and cumin. Blackberries and morello cherries. Has a supple, velvety mouthfeel and it holds a persistent finish.* | 92/100 |
| Château Montrose | 2nd  | Saint-Estephe | 2022 | *A more subtle style but very thought provoking, floral aromas of rose and violets, paired with red/black plums and morello cherries, good intensity of tannin and acidity, very hopeful for this vintage in the future.* | 94/100 |
| Château Montrose | 2nd  | Saint-Estephe | 2021 | *Strong fruit intensity, sour black cherries, dark berries, plums, elegant on the palate with hints of herbs, spices and pencil shavings. An incredible finish. This was the strongest wine of todays tasting.* | 97/100 |
| Château Montrose | 2nd  | Saint-Estephe | 2020 | *Hints of more savoury characteristics than its counterpart vintages tasted, tomato leaf, fruit development starting to take shape with blueberry and blackberry compot. Grainy tannin, coffee grounds, dark chocolate, ageing nicely.* | 95/100 |
| Château Pontet-Canet | 5th  | Pauillac | 2023 | *Juicy blackberry, black plum, hints of vanilla and violets. On the palate a distinctive bitterness, dark chocolate and coffee grounds, tree bark.* | 92/100 |
| Château Pontet-Canet | 5th  | Pauillac | 2022 | *Crushed black peppercorns, bramble and deep earthy character. Black fruits with firm intensity, grainy tannins with plenty of energy for ageing.* | 92/100 |
| Château Pontet-Canet | 5th  | Pauillac | 2021 | *More expressive than previous two vintages, sandalwood, black plum, bramble, developing nicely and could age for another 8-12 years. Evolves in the glass showing its complexity of aromas.* | 94/100 |
| Château Pontet-Canet | 5th  | Pauillac | 2020 | *Cabernet Sauvignon is prominent and fruit has started to develop, baked plums, tobacco, with the typicity of Pontet-Canet style with balanced bitters aromas, earthy, dark chocolate and espresso.* | 95/100 |
| Château Smith Haut Lafitte | Graves 1959 GCC | Pessac-Leognan | 2020 | *One the stand outs of the tasting, an abundance of aromas including black and blue fruits, beautiful chalky tannins with a silky mouthfeel that entices you to go back for more. The wine showing the most opulence today.* | 97/100 |
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| Château Canon | GCCB | Saint-Emilion  | 2021 | *Blackberries, black cherries, rasperries, blueberries and plums harmonise nicely with leather, freshly cut wood with hints of granite.* | 94/100 |