

UNION GRANDS CRUS BORDEAUX

Press release

An exceptional En Primeur Week for a vintage born in extreme conditions

With April soon upon us, Bordeaux is preparing for a very special En Primeur week. This year as every year, the 131 Châteaux affiliated with the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux (UGCB) will present an exclusive preview of the 2022 vintage - still ageing in the barrels - to over 6,000 journalists and buyers from all over the world.

Across the week of 20-27 April 2023, the UGCB will host a series of exclusive events: the week kicks off on Monday with the main tasting, at Bordeaux's Hangar 14. From Tuesday to Thursday, guests will be invited to head out into the vineyards, with six Châteaux selected to host group tastings for their respective appellations.

2022 is already being talked about as a vintage of extremes, marked by a drought which lasted throughout the seasons, accompanied by scorching temperatures and an early harvest. The threat of vine diseases was very low while the grapes were of superb quality. The extraordinary weather conditions resulted in concentrated, ripe fruit which lost none of its aromatic finesse. Yields were relatively small, with most appellations reporting smaller harvests compared to previous vintages. Rainfall in late September triggered the development of *Botrytis cinerea* in Barsac-Sauternes, where the harvest proved to be generous in terms of both concentration and volume.

This year, after several years of COVID-induced complications, the end of travel restrictions, the ever-expanding interest in Bordeaux's Grand Cru wines, and of course the promising buzz around the 2022 vintage, have all whet the appetite of the wine world. Almost half a century after En Primeur week began, the UGCB has a key role to play in passing the torch from the generations who have contributed to the great success of Bordeaux's Grand Cru wines and the future generations who will embody the renaissance of Bordeaux for decades to come.

Agenda

Monday 24 April 2023

Tasting of wines from all UGCB member estates in all appellations

9.00 am – 11.30 am // 11.30 am – 2.00 pm
// 2.00 pm – 4.30 pm

Hangar 14: 173 Quai des Chartrons, 33000 Bordeaux

Tuesday 25 to Thursday 27 April 2023

Collective tastings for each appellation, hosted by six Châteaux, booking required
9.30 am to 6.00 pm

Château de Fieuzal

Graves et Pessac-Léognan, Sauternes et Barsac

Château Valandraud

Saint-Emilion Grand cru

Château Beauregard

Pomerol

Château Lascombes

Margaux, Haut-Médoc Sud

Château Beychevelle

Saint-Julien, Listrac-Médoc et Moulis-en-Médoc

Château Lynch-Bages

Pauillac, Saint-Estèphe, Haut-Médoc Nord et Médoc

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The 131 UGCB Châteaux

