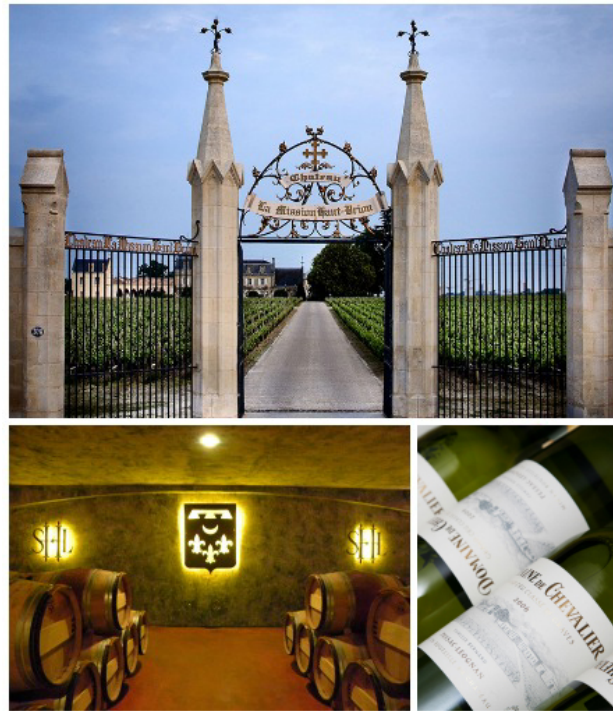




Jeannie Cho Lee's 2012 En Primeur Bordeaux Picks

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Hong Kong based MW Jeannie Cho Lee guide to 2012 En Primeur.



Château La Mission Haut-Brion (Top), Smith Haut Lafite (Left) and Domaine de Chevalier (Right)

Jeannie Cho Lee is one of Asia's most respected and knowledgeable wine experts. Born in South Korea and based in Hong Kong since 1994, Lee was the very first Asian to ever receive the Master of Wine (MW) accreditation, a rigorous program that takes at least three years to finish. Even today, she remains one of only five MWs based in Asia.

Lee is a prolific writer whose musings on wine and food have been published everywhere from The South China Morning Post to Wine Spectator. She also authored the award-winning book *Asian Palate* and serves as a wine consultant for Singapore Airlines and Galaxy Macau.

Like many wine critics, Lee found many impressive wines among the 2012 Bordeaux en primeur vintage. The following are picks from Jeanie and her notes.

The Best Whites (Pessac-Léognan appellation)

Château Smith Haut Lafitte 2012 (Rated 93 out of 100 by Lee)

Lee praised this wine for its intensity, depth, vibrancy and long finish. A “lovely white Bordeaux with balance and complexity.”

Château La Mission Haut-Brion 2012 (Rated 93 out of 100 by Lee)

A full-bodied wine with fruity nose of flavors ranging from mangosteen, to passion fruit and pears. “The wine should age and evolve beautifully.”

Domaine de Chevalier 2012 (Rated 90 out of 100 by Lee)

An elegant wine with balance and finesse, the Domaine de Chevalier 2012 was rated highly by Lee for its supple, polished character, delicate floral notes and flavors that include citrus fruits like pomelos.

The Best Reds

Château Troplong Mondot 2012 (Rated 92-94 out of 100 by Lee)

Hailing from one of the largest vineyards in the Saint-Emilion region, Lee tasted this remarkable wine twice and lauded it for its concentration and depth. Tasting of plums, ripe blackberries and a hint of cocoa, she also liked the Château Troplong Mondot 2012 for its “somewhat modern” style and firm tannins.

Château Clerc Milon 2012 (Rated 92-93 out of 100 by Lee)

The vibrant, attractive aroma of this wine includes notes of red fruits, cedar and plums. While many red wines take years to reach their potential, Lee noted that the Château Clerc Milon 2012 is great from the beginning. “A delicious wine that is drinkable now with supple, velvety tannins and a generous mid palate.”

Château Calon-Ségur 2012 (Rated 90-92 out of 100 by Lee)

This is a red with good depth and density, plush texture, and notes of plums, blackberries and violets. It also has “excellent potential to age”.



Château D'Armailhac 1012

The Best Deals

Château Haut-Bailly 2012 (Rated 94 out of 100 by Lee)

This is a complicated wine. The Château Haut-Bailly 2012 “stands out by combining restraint, intensity and complexity.” It has firm tannins and delicate flavors that are not quite at their peak, along with a remarkable density, freshness and finesse. If you want to be intrigued, this is your wine.

Château Canon 2012 (Rated 91 out of 100 by Lee)

This wine is simply good all around; with a velvety texture, layers, great depth and length. Tasting notes include plums, blackberries and a hint of cedar. The Château Canon wine estate is renowned for producing powerful wines that grow better with age.

Château D'Armailhac 2012 (Rated 90 out of 100 by Lee)

A balanced, medium-weight wine with alluring freshness and a “voluptuous texture,” this is bound to seduce. Lee praised its lovely aromas of cedar, sweet spices and red currants, and noted that it should easily keep for a decade or longer.

About Millésima

Millésima is one of the oldest, largest and most established sellers of Bordeaux wine futures, a négociant that buys an average of 840,000 bottles per year and ships to over 100 different countries. Because of its volume, Millésima is able to offer one of the widest range of wines including Grand Crus at exclusive and great value prices in various formats; from magnums, jeroboams and imperial. Millésima guarantees provenance of its wines and a top class storage facility with their massive bicentenary 2.5 million bottle cellar in Bordeaux.