Cru Investment Research





Château Pontet-Canet 2016 Upgrading to Global Recommended List

- We are upgrading Château Pontet-Canet 2016 to our Global Recommended List.
- **Bordeaux 2016** is going to be a **legendary vintage** which will only grow in stature with global collectors / investors. Collectors should be buying up the cheapest top scoring wines from this vintage.
- Pontet-Canet has a great record of score upgrades from Wine Advocate. There is a good chance of Pontet-Canet getting the magic 100 points in the future.
- At only SG\$ 1,055 per 6x75cl, Pontet-Canet 2016 is by far the cheapest Top 10 scoring Left Bank 2016.
- Pontet-Canet 2016 is offered at a **big discount** to the 2009 and 2010 back vintages.
- We have a high level of confidence that Pontet-Canet 2016 will be a **good long-term performer**, and we recommend that every serious collection contains at least one case.

Pontet-Canet 2016: Upgraded to Cru Global Recommend List

Reasons behind our upgrade:

- 1. **Legendary Vintage** 2016 is the best Bordeaux vintage post 2010.
- 2. **Potential for Up-rating** Pontet-Canet has a strong record of upgrades. Lisa Perrotti-Brown has given a strong hint that the 2016 could be destined for "three digits". Jeb Dunnuck says the same thing. Pontet-Canet 2016 already has one **100 point** score from critic Roger Voss at Wine Enthusiast.
- 3. **Relative Undervaluation** Pontet Canet 2016 is by far the cheapest of the Top 10 scoring Left Bank 2016s and looks undervalued also versus its 2019 and 2010 vintages.

1. Bordeaux 2016 – Best Vintage Since 'Twin Greats' of 2009/10

Since 1970, only **six vintages** in Pauillac have been classified "**Extraordinary**" by Wine Advocate: **1982**, **1990**, **1996**, **2009**, **2010** and **2016**. **Jancis Robinson MW** recently declared that Bordeaux 2016 was the "best vintage" she would taste in her lifetime. 2016 is rapidly ascending to epochal status and hence we advise clients to **pick up the top scoring wines** from this year whenever available. Long-term collectors/investors know that 'vintage' is to fine wine, what 'location' is to real estate ...

2. Pontet-Canet 2016: Potential for Upgrade to 100 points

Pontet-Canet 2016 is currently rated **98+ points** from Wine Advocate. That "+" is important, because Pontet-Canet has one of the best records of **being upgraded** of any Bordeaux estate. Just look at the table below:



Pontet-Canet is the "King of the Score Upgrade" – Is the 2016 Destined for 100 Points?

| Pontet-Canet | 1st rating | 2nd rating | 3rd rating | 4th rating | 5th rating |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 | 98-100 | | | | |
| | 30 May 2020 | | | | |
| | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | | | |
| | 97-99 | UPGRADE (97-99)+ | | | |
| 2018 | 24 Apr 2019 | 30 May 2020 | | | |
| | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | | |
| | 96-98 | 96 | | | |
| 2017 | 27 Apr 2018 | 17 Mar 2020 | | | |
| | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | Lisa Perrotti Brown | | | |
| 2016 | 95-97 | UPGRADE 98 | UPGRADE 98+ | | |
| | 28 Apr 2017 | 1 Dec 2018 | 30 May 2020 | | |
| | Neal Martin | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | |
| 2015 | 94-96 | UPGRADE 96+ | UPGRADE 97 | | |
| | 28 Apr 2016 | 22 Feb 2018 | 30 May 2020 | | |
| | Neal Martin | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | |
| | 93-95 | 94 | UPGRADE 95 | | |
| 2014 | 30 Apr 2015 | 1 Apr 2017 | 30 May 2020 | | |
| | Neal Martin | Neal Martin | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | |
| 2013 | 90-92 | UPGRADE 92 | | | |
| | 28 Aug 2014 | 30 May 2020 | | | |
| | Robert Parker | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | | |
| 2010 | (96-100) | UPGRADE 100 | 100 | | |
| | 2 May 2011 | 28 Feb 2013 | 30 May 2020 | | |
| | Robert Parker | Robert Parker | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | | |
| 2009 | (97-100) | UPGRADE 100 | DOWNGRADE 98 | UPGRADE 100 | 100 |
| | 27 Apr 2010 | 23 Dec 2011 | 1 Mar 2017 | 14 Mar 2019 | 30 May 2020 |
| | Robert Parker | Robert Parker | Neal Martin | Lisa Perrotti-Brown | Lisa Perrotti-Brown |

Pontet-Canet has had **14 upgrades** since 2003, versus only 5 downgrades. No Pontet-Canet wine has been downgraded since the 2009 in 2017, which was promptly reversed in 2019!

Pontet-Canet 2016 has already been **upgraded twice**. Are we going to see a third upgrade in the future? We wouldn't bet against it. Lisa Perrotti-Brown dropped a big hint in May 2020 when she wrote:

"I wouldn't be at all surprised if this **warrants the three-digit score** in a few years' time"

Intriguing, **Jeb Dunnuck** wrote exactly the same thing:

"Reminding me of the 2010 and, I suspect, a wine that will **merit a triple-digit rating** in a decade or so (I tasted this on multiple occasions and thought it was perfect on one of them)"

3. Pontet-Canet 2016 is Undervalued Versus 2016 Peers and its own Back Vintages

Look at the **10 Best Scoring Left Bank 2016s:**

| The 10 Best Scoring Left Bank 2016s | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| | WA | Price (6x75cl) IB | | | | | |
| Pontet-Canet | 98+ | SGD | 1,055 | | | | |
| Montrose | 99 | SGD | 1,550 | | | | |
| Ducru-Beaucaillou | 98+ | SGD | 1,645 | | | | |
| Cos d'Estournal | 100 | SGD | 1,720 | | | | |
| Pichon Lalande | 98+ | SGD | 1,785 | | | | |
| Léoville Las Cases | 100 | SGD | 2,560 | | | | |
| Haut-Brion | 100 | SGD | 4,570 | | | | |
| Château Margaux | 99 | SGD | 5,130 | | | | |
| Lafite Rothschild | 99 | SGD | 6,960 | | | | |
| Latour (estimated price) | 100 | SGD | 6,960 | | | | |

Pontet-Canet 2016 is a **third cheaper** than the next cheapest top 2016 wine (Montrose 2016, which we also like as a recommendation). This huge discount makes no sense to us, and we believe Pontet-Canet 2016 is one of the **most undervalued wines** in Bordeaux today.

Pontet-Canet 2016 also looks undervalued versus the last two truly great Pontet-Canets: 2009 and 2019:

| Best Scoring Modern Physical Pontet-Canets | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | WA | Price (6x75cl) IB | | | | |
| Pontet-Canet 2016 | 98+ | SGD | 1,055 | | | |
| Pontet-Canet 2010 | 100 | SGD | 1,625 | | | |
| Pontet-Canet 2009 | 100 | SGD | 2,140 | | | |

Why is Pontet-Canet such a Great Long-term Holding?

Château Pontet-Canet sits less than 500m away from First Growth Château Mouton Rothschild. Bordeaux aficionados know this means getting **potentially First Growth quality** at **Fifth Growth prices**.

But of course today the old 1855 Classification counts for very little these days, especially with estates that have improved as much as Pontet-Canet. There is no question that, as a global Bordeaux brand, Pontet-Canet is second only to First Growths, the Right Bank elite and a handful of 'super seconds' in recognition and stature.

Antonio Galloni admires Pontet-Canet for breaking the mould in adopting new winemaking techniques such as aging a portion of their wines in amphora, hailing Pontet-Canet as "one of the most singular wines in Bordeaux".



Chris Mercer wrote in Decanter that its wines were one of the **best-selling** during the 2019 *en primeur* among the ranks of Lynch-Bages, Mouton Rothschild, Mission Haut-Brion, Pichon Lalande and Clinet.

Pontet-Canet is also ahead of the curve in other areas which are likely to make their wines more desirable in the future. They converted to full bio-dynamism in 2010 (now certified by Biodyvin and Demeter) and are considered one of Bordeaux's most sustainable producers.

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