



IMW Château Léoville Las Cases Master Class

London, 5th January 2010

There will be a rare opportunity for the wine trade to attend a master class featuring a vertical tasting of vintages from renowned Bordeaux property Château Léoville Las Cases in London in January.

The event has been organised by The Institute of Masters of Wine in conjunction with the Bordeaux Second Growth property and its owners, the Delon family. It will take place on Wednesday 27th January from 10am to 1pm at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London.

As early as the 17th century, Léoville Las Cases commanded prices second only to the Bordeaux First Growths and it has consistently been recognised as one of Bordeaux's leading wines ever since – regarded today by connoisseurs of claret as one of the top performing Super Seconds.

It is rare for Léoville Las Cases to present tastings such as this and the Institute is especially pleased that Yorick d'Alton, brother-in-law of the proprietor Jean-Hubert Delon, will give his personal insight into the wines during the three-hour master class. He will present a vertical tasting of seven vintages of Léoville Las Cases, one vintage of the château's second wine, Clos du Marquis, and wines from two other Bordeaux properties in the Delon family's ownership.

The master class will feature Léoville Las Cases vintages 2007, 2006, 2002, 2001, 1998, 1996 and 1989, and its second wine, Clos du Marquis, from the 2001 vintage. In addition, Château Potensac 2003 from the Medoc and Château Nenin 1999 and Fugue de Nenin 1998, from the Delon family's Pomerol estate, will complete the list of wines which Yorick d'Alton will address.

Tickets priced at £100 each are now available for purchase. For further information and booking visit the Events section of the Institute's www.mastersofwine.org website or email Helen Williams, Events Manager, at hwilliams@mastersofwine.org.

Mark Bingley MW, Chairman of the Institute's Events Committee said: "The Institute's master classes provide our members, students and the wine trade with the opportunity to both taste the world's iconic wines and learn about them from their makers. This tutored tasting with Yorick d'Alton will provide a unique personal insight to the wines of Léoville Las Cases, which is one of the great Bordeaux properties."

The Institute of Masters of Wine is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting excellence in the wine trade. It was founded in 1955 and today its membership comprises 279 Masters of Wine (MWs) based in 22 countries. More than 240 students from 24 countries are currently studying for the Master of Wine qualification which is globally recognised as the highest professional achievement in the wine industry.

Every year and around the world the Institute hosts tastings, seminars and trips which offer an unparalleled opportunity to taste and learn from the experts. Although primarily intended for Masters of Wine, students of the Institute and the wine trade, most of the Institute's tastings and seminars now offer a limited number of spaces for members of the public with a serious interest in fine wine.

Event: Château Léoville Las Cases Master Class
Date: Wednesday 27th January 2010, 10am to 1pm
Venue: Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3N 4DH
Booking: Tickets are priced at £100 each and must be booked in advance via the Institute of Masters of Wine

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Enquiries about the Institute of Masters of Wine (IMW):

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About the Institute of Masters of Wine:

- Founded in 1955, The Institute of Masters of Wine (IMW) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting excellence in the wine trade.
- The IMW has 279 members (Masters of Wine, normally abbreviated to MW after a member's name) based in 22 countries.
- The IMW's education programme encourages a cross-disciplinary approach to understanding wine and communicating that knowledge at the highest level. The IMW holds annual study seminars in Napa Valley, USA; Adelaide, Australia; and Rust, Austria. More than 240 students from 24 countries are currently engaged in the IMW's education programme.
- The annual examinations take place in London, Napa and Sydney, over a four-day period. There are three practical papers, each with 12 wines. Candidates are required to blind taste and identify wines of varying quality levels and origins. In four theory papers, candidates need to demonstrate, through essays, knowledge of a wide range of subjects including winemaking, grape growing, business and social issues. Students also write a 10,000-word dissertation on a subject of their choice. Only after passing all parts of the examination can someone be admitted to the IMW and use the title Master of Wine/MW.
- The IMW also organises annual events of professional interest to the global wine trade, including an international symposium every four years. The next symposium, *Forging Links*, takes place from 24 to 27 June 2010 in Bordeaux – see www.mwsymposium.com for further information.
- More information about the Institute and its activities, including full biographies and contact details of MWs, can be found at the IMW's www.mastersofwine.org website.