



THE INSTITUTE OF
MASTERS of WINE

2011 Institute Annual Claret Tasting

One of the world's largest, annual retrospective tastings of classed growth Bordeaux wines will be held in London on 9 November this year.

The Institute's annual Bordeaux tasting, its flagship event since the mid-1980s, will this year feature red wines from the 2007 vintage. All the wines shown will be from Grands Crus Classés properties of the Médoc, including the First Growths, or their right bank equivalents from St. Émilion and Pomerol.

This year, a selection of Grands Crus Classés wines from Sauternes and Barsac will also be available to taste.

Attendees will have the opportunity to taste the red and sweet wines both blind and with labels showing, except for the First Growths which will not be shown blind.

The 2007 vintage was described by château owners as "*miraculé*" after a wet and overcast summer because the sun finally appeared in September, saving the harvest.

Mark Bingley MW Chair of the Institute's Events Committee said: "This event remains an outstanding opportunity to taste and compare the top wines of Bordeaux and re-assess the vintage after two years in bottle. Our wide range of wines is an especially interesting comparison for many Bordeaux specialists, whose first impressions came from barrel samples tasted in the Spring following the harvest.

"Thus far, tasters have been pleasantly surprised by how well 2007s have developed in bottle with many wines gaining both balance and charm. MWs, our students, the wider trade and Bordeaux amateurs will be able to taste the leading wines and draw their own conclusions."

The Institute gratefully acknowledges the assistance of its supporters Le Conseil des Grands Crus Classés en 1855 and Vins et Vignobles Dourthe in staging this year's tasting.

Tickets for the tasting are priced at £95 each (MW and Institute student discounts apply) and are available to book via the Events section of the Institute's www.mastersofwine.org website.

Due to the high demand for places at this event, the tasting is split into two sessions: 9.45am – 11.30am and 11.30am – 2.45pm on 9 November. Attendees must therefore book for either the first or second session. The venue is Vintners' Hall on Upper Thames Street, London, EC4V 3BG.

Ends (27.09.11)

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The Institute of Masters of Wine

Master of Wine is internationally recognised as the foremost title in the world of wine. It was established in 1953 and is today held by professionals across the international wine community who have demonstrated both theoretical knowledge and practical ability in the art, science and business of wine and who are committed to professional excellence.

It is membership of the Institute of Masters of Wine and abiding by its Code of Conduct, not only passing the Masters of Wine Examination, which confers the right to use the title Master of Wine or its abbreviated, post-nominal form MW.

A Master of Wine is someone who has demonstrated, by way of rigorous examination, a thorough knowledge of all aspects of wine and an ability to communicate that knowledge clearly. They actively encourage others in the pursuit of knowledge as well as seeking to bring wine communities together.

The Institute's vision is one of knowledge and integrity. Through its members – the international community of 300 Masters of Wine – and its activities, it promotes excellence, interaction and learning, across all sectors of the global wine community.

In keeping with its original aims, the Institute promotes a cross-disciplinary approach to understanding wine at the highest level. It also organises and contributes to wine trade events around the world. Annual visits are made to wine producing regions whilst the Institute's annual tasting and seminar programme provides an independent and authoritative perspective on wine. Every four years, its international symposium brings together leading figures from the wine community to address topical issues in an independent forum.

For more information on the Institute see its www.mastersofwine.org website.