



# 16 Impressive Red Bordeaux

New reviews of lesser-known Cabernet- and Merlot-based reds from Bordeaux's potentially classic 2010 vintage

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Tasting Highlights bring the best wines from our editors' most recent tastings to WineSpectator.com members.

I'm currently in Bordeaux, tasting through several hundred samples of the recently bottled 2010 vintage. I also taste through hundreds more in my New York office throughout the year. Here's a selection of lesser-known names and good values from my tastings in New York before coming to the region.

Owned by Jean-Philippe Saby, both Château Haut La Grace Dieu and Château St.-André Corbin made impressive 2010s, with the latter a delicious value worth tracking down for short- to medium-term drinking. Wines like this will be ideal in 2010, as the vintage sports serious, racy structure, and the bigger wines will need substantial cellaring.

One of 2010's strengths is naturally lower yields due to *coulure* during the spring. Following that, a warm, but not hot, and very dry growing season resulted in smaller berries with thicker skins. That means the more generic appellations such as Bordeaux and Bordeaux Supérieur, where high yields often hamstring quality, are better bets in 2010. There should be lots of tasty wines, such as the Château Féret-Lambert, a newly developed property in Grézillac that checks in at under \$20.

There will be plenty more to come from the 2010 Bordeaux. Look for my full tasting report in the March 31, 2013, issue of *Wine Spectator*, which is slated to include reviews of more than 600 wines from this potentially classic-quality vintage.

**CHATEAU BELLEVUE PEYCHARNEAU Bordeaux Supérieur 2010** Score: 89 | \$18  
This wine is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. It has a dark, mocha and espresso nose, leading to a plush plum, blackberry and fig fruit palate. The roasted, smoky finish has enough of a graphite edge to stay honest. A bit revved up, but still enjoyable. Drink now through 2014. 1,500 cases imported. —J.M.

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**CHATEAU BELLEVUE PEYCHARNEAU Bordeaux Supérieur 2010** Score: 89 | \$18  
This has nice dark mocha and espresso notes leading the way and melded to the core of plush plum, blackberry paste and fig fruit. The roasted, smoky finish has enough of a graphite edge to stay honest. A bit revved up, but still enjoyable. Drink now through 2014. 1,500 cases imported. —J.M.