

GREAT WINE SEMINAR 1998

Moderated by Michael Broadbent MW

CHÂTEAU MOUTON ROTHSCHILD

Mouton Rothschild 1990 (from magnum) **+**

Dark brick, touch of tawny at rim. Concentrated, cool and complex aroma with dark fruit and cedar highlights. The palate offers an immediate impression of power and grace. There is tremendous layered depth. Harmonious, long and youthfully complex on the finish. In the early phase of development.

Mouton Rothschild 1988 *(*)**

Denser color than the 1990, less mature. Concentrated, restrained black fruit nose. Concentrated taste and a bit of severity from a backbone of acidity. This has the leanness of the vintage and will take some time to soften. But very much my style.

Mouton Rothschild 1986 **(*)**

Dense immature color with black center. Highly concentrated to the nose and very high class, with a great deal in reserve. Dense, very youthful palate exhibiting enormous concentration of black fruits and subtle lead pencil and cedar accents. Very firmly structured. A classic, for the long haul.

Mouton Rothschild 1983 *+**

Dark reddish brick, moderately dense. Soft cedary nose showing some signs of maturity. This does not have the concentration of a top year. Medium weight. Dry finish with a cedar tone. Drink now to 2000.

Mouton Rothschild 1982 ***!**

Dense dark red to brick. Profound, ample, ripe nose with cedar and saddle leather. The taste is tremendously rich and full. This is an opulent Mouton. Great depth and beautiful equilibrium as well. Multidimensional finish showing warm cedar, leather and spice. A Parker "100" – I completely agree.

Mouton Rothschild 1976 *+**

Dark brick with a tawny rim. The aromatics are deep and warmer than common for Mouton, accented by leather and tobacco. The palate is not entirely balanced, with more structure than center and flesh. Has its appeal nonetheless for the near term.

Mouton Rothschild 1975 *(*)**

Brick with a tawny cast – showing maturity. The nose reveals density and the ripeness of the raw material, and is now evolving toward a leathery tone. In the mouth, there is considerable richness and an almost burnt quality. The tannins continue to be prominent, and the finish is rather dry. Should be smoother in a few more years, but not likely to age gracefully for a long period.

Mouton Rothschild 1970 *+**

Brick with tawny. Maturing, complex bouquet with cedar and leaf notes. Well-developed taste. Moderate concentration, but hardly a generous vintage. A note of acidity in the finale. Ready to drink. [This was the vintage bested by California in the Judgment of Paris. Robert Parker has written that it is “one of the most frustratingly irregular wines,” and would peak in 2001.]

Mouton Rothschild 1962 **+**

Immature dense, dark red with hint of brick. Deep, cool, harmonious nose with real density, marked by Cabernet Sauvignon. Full and somewhat austere taste with a dry ending. Powerfully structured. This is astoundingly young and vigorous. Head and shoulders above the 1970.