



Bordeaux Learning Objectives

Understand how key historical, political, geographical, geological, topographical, and climatic factors have influenced the viti/vini practices of Bordeaux and its wine styles

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to...

Locate Bordeaux, its sub-regions and appellations on a map of France

Detail the role of the Dutch in the development of the Médoc Peninsula as vineyard land

Recognize the importance of Bordeaux's economic ties to England

Recall the three "Golden Ages" of Bordeaux

Identify the major waterways of the region, recognize their historical importance and the impact they have on grape growing

List the major soil types of the region, where they are located, and whether they are considered "warm" or "cold"

Define the general climate of Bordeaux and the features that influence it

Describe the meso-climate within the sweet wine producing area of Bordeaux

Detail sweet wine production (Fundamentals Unit)

Describe the effects of botrytis (Fundamentals Unit)

Recite the major red and white grapes of the region, where they are planted and why

Identify the regional appellations and know their production standards

Detail the distinction between, claret, *clairet* and rosé

Detail the structure of the *en primeur* system and how it impacts Bordeaux wine pricing

Define "*grand vin*"

Identify and describe the need-to-know AOCs of the following sub-regions: Médoc, Libournais, Graves, Sauternais, and Entre-deux-Mers... know the specificities of their climate, topography and soils, the wine styles they produce, and the primary grapes within each

Understand the structure of the new Côtes de Bordeaux appellation and its five DGCs



Identify the Bordeaux *côtes* and list the characteristics that most have in common... know the specificities of their climate, topography and soils, the wine styles they produce, and the primary grapes within each

Describe how the red Bordeaux blend has evolved over time and why

Identify the traditional style of Bordeaux red and white wines and how they compare to global competitors

Recall the details of each classification system (what type of wines are classified and the structure of each classification): 1855, Cru Bourgeois, Graves, Saint-Émilion

Recall the regulations for the Cru Artisan designation