

[Regan Drew Vinonotebook October 14, 2013](#)

2004 Chateau La Tour Carnet Cuvee Legende , Haut-Medoc



Named after an Englishman..

The personal connection is strong to this Chateau as it is the only Grand Cru Bordeaux Chateau that I've visited. Okay, sentiment may cloud the memory and I've given a run down of the visit in the link above. It should be worth pointing out that whilst this is Grand Cru Classe, it is marked as a 4th Growth. But in my mind, that means extraordinary value rather than a crass imitation of quality Bordeaux.

Their dedication to quality was evident throughout the winery during our visit. Surgically clean and ready for the expectant intake of Cabernet, Cabernet Franc and Merlot grapes. Concrete fermenters side by side with expensive wood vessels. Even a little nod to history through innovation, a concrete egg, apparently destined to do great things to the Merlot.

Which brings us to this Cuvee Legende 2004. Not one of the cuvee we tasted in situ (in the blessed cool relief of the barrel room), but I'm quite chuffed that I can now get this label in Australia.

Almost 10 years old and just starting to hit peak drinking window. You'd be hard pressed to find an Australian top quality Cabernet at this price let alone a Grand Cru Bordeaux. Admittedly, this the "2nd" Label of one of many wineries owned by [Bernard Magrez](#), (a good mate of Gerard Depardieu, who gets the Flying Frenchman, Michel Rolland to come in to consult to the

winemaking) but one with a decent history that Magrez seems quite proud to restore.

Now the wine: Showing the petticoats under the frock, there's complex secondary aromas of older leather and tobacco and meat shadowing the black fruits, violets, tomato leaf and tobacco. The palate still long and exquisite. Class. Olives and blackcurrants and savoury lift given from dried herbs. Those rocks..those hot hot rocks under the vines, they're there too, with a earthy/mineral quality that assists in the palate length. This is a very smart wine that is smack bang at the height of its power. Fingers crossed all the corks are as good as the one in the bottle I had.

Alc: 13%

RRP: \$57