

Auction Report

Vive La France! 11 iconic French wines collectors are bidding on this Bastille Day

As France celebrates July 14th and possibly a world cup final, we raise a glass to the bottles that defined a remarkable first half of 2026 at auction. From a trio of blazing Burgundy Grand Crus to a resurgent Bordeaux market and cult Loire producers, here are the French wines the world's collectors fought hardest to win.

Burgundy: Three Bottles Break the €20,000 Barrier

1. 2015 Romanée-Conti, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti

The single most expensive bottle sold in the first six months of 2026, and the benchmark against which every other Burgundy is measured.

Hammer price: €20,380, sold to French collector in June 2026

vs. iDealwine index: +11%

2. 1985 Clos-de-la-Roche, Domaine Dujac (magnum)

The surprise of the season: a mature magnum that shattered every estimate.

Hammer price: €20,254 (bidding began at €1,635), sold to an Irish collector in June 2026

vs. iDealwine index: +1,139%

3. Chambertin 1985, magnum — Domaine Armand Rousseau

Hammer price: €20,254, sold to a British collector

vs. iDealwine index: +61%

Two more iconic wines greatly exceeded price estimates: 1995 Musigny, Domaine Georges Roumier which sold for €15,977 to a collector in Macau (+87%); and 2011 Meursault Premier Cru Les Gouttes d'Or Domaine d'Auvenay, which fetched €5,661 and was bought by an American collector (+50%).

Bordeaux: Large Formats Command a Premium

What's rare is wonderful, and in Bordeaux it's the rarer bigger bottles including magnums, jeroboams, imperials that are most coveted by collectors.

4. Château Latour 2002, imperial (6L)

Hammer price: €3,774 or +21% over the 75cl bottle-equivalent estimate

5. Château Léoville Las Cases 2010, jeroboam

Hammer price: €1,648, or +18% over the 75cl bottle-equivalent estimate

6. Château Tertre Roteboeuf 2007, imperial

Hammer price: €1,257 or +15% over the 75cl bottle-equivalent estimate

7. Château d'Yquem 2023, magnum

Hammer price: €823, +30% over the 75cl bottle-equivalent estimate

8. Château Lafite Rothschild: A Vintage-by-Vintage Surge

Vintage	Hammer Price	vs. iDealwine Index
1995	€1,246	+124%
1991	€767	+19%
2010	€818	+12%
2016	€726	+13%
2005	€704	+8%

Cult Loire Producers continuing to make waves

9. 2004 Genèse, Jardins Esméraldins, Xavier Caillard

Hammer price: €1,195 won by a Korean collector

10. 1996 Diogène Picrate, rosé, Eric Calcutt

Hammer price: €598, won by a French collector

11. 1947 Le Haut-Lieu, Domaine Huet, Vouvray

Hammer price: €503, won by a French collector

Across every region, one pattern holds: age remains the ultimate driver of desire. From the 1947 Vouvray to the 1985 Burgundies and 90s Lafite, the oldest bottles on the block consistently drew the fiercest bidding and the biggest premiums over the original starting prices.