

**Château Pichon Comtesse Lalande**  
**A Vertical Tasting Led by JOHN AVERY MW**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**



The early history of **Château Pichon Lalande** naturally matches that of its twin sibling, **Pichon-Baron**, as both were created from the great Pichon estate. The estate as a whole dates back to the time of Bernard de Longueville, the son of François de Pichon and Catherine de Bavolier. The family assumed the Barony of Longueville when Bernard married Anne Daffis de Longueville in 1646.

In 1925, Château Pichon-Longueville Comtesse-de-Lalande was bought by Edouard and Louis Mialhe. Edouard's daughter, **May Eliane de Lencquesaing** (born in 1926) became the owner and manager of the property in 1978. Under May Eliane the wine went from strength to strength and its reputation soared into the top category of second growths. In fact many believe that it should now be re-classed as a first growth. The second wine, Réserve de la Comtesse, is a very good wine in its own right and often a more affordable alternative! In 2006, de Lencquesaing sold a majority interest in the Château to the Rouzaud family, which also owns the Champagne House Louis Roederer.

Since meeting May Eliane some years ago when she still owned the Château, the organiser has long wanted to arrange a vertical tasting of Château Pichon Comtesse-de-Lalande and has been collecting wines ever since. This has now become a reality and one person immediately sprang to mind to lead this superb event – **John Avery MW**.

With 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Franc and 8% Petit Verdot, Pichon Lalande has an unusually high proportion of Merlot for a Pauillac property, which tends to make the tannic structure of this wine slightly softer than wines from many other classified Pauillac Châteaux, and which, particularly in France, is described as a more "feminine" style. The fact that part of the vineyard lies in St-Julien helps to give the wines a special character. These are wines of great finesse, breeding and longevity as our tasting tonight will show.

There will be 11 wines tonight which will be as follows:

**2003 Réserve de La Comtesse**  
**2001 Réserve de la Comtesse and Pichon Lalande**

**and the following vintages of Pichon Lalande:**

**1998, 1990, 1989, 1985, 1983, 1982 and 1981.**

John will shortly decide whether to show **1997 or 1995 Pichon Lalande**.

Our very grateful thanks must go to **Ian Rushton** who has very kindly agreed to let us have a bottle of the famed **1982 Pichon Lalande** at a favourable price (currently around £400 per bottle) and to **John Avery** who has similarly offered **1983** from his cellar.

Please note that as this is a comparative tasting of the different vintages, no food will accompany this tasting.

**Priority will be given to Members and Joint Members and guests allocated places only if room.**



**Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande, Pauillac**

Venue:	The Lansdowne Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place	
Nearest Tube:	Green Park	Mobility Rating - 1 Lift access
Time:	7.00pm	
Dress:	Jacket and Tie for gentlemen; Equivalent smart for ladies	
Price p/person:	£85.00 Members and Joint Members <b>Guests £90.00 if room</b>	
Organiser:	Carole Goldberg Tel: 020 8421 5957 e-mail: craftycarole1@aol.com	