



*Commanderie du Bontemps*  
MEDOC · GRAVES · SAUTERNES · BARSAC

## 2022 LEFT BANK BORDEAUX CUP

### Cornell University wins the Cup!

The American squad from Cornell University came out on top of the seven competing teams still in the race at the Final of the 2022 Left Bank Bordeaux Cup. The international contest for wine clubs of universities and elite schools culminated on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June in the cellars of Château Lafite Rothschild in Pauillac outside Bordeaux, France.

SKEMA Lille and University of St. Gallen joined the winners in second and third place respectively.



The Cornell University team with the *Commandeurs* around them

The seven finalist teams, who successfully came through the qualifying rounds that were again organised remotely this year, were able to come together in person for a wine journey before competing in the Grand Final.

In keeping with the tradition, Commanderie du Bontemps offered the students an amazing opportunity to spend a few days taking part in several tasting sessions, while travelling round the great Left Bank properties

and terroirs. This year, they were able to visit and learn about Châteaux Guiraud, Malartic-Lagravière, Carbonnieux, Lagrange, Rauzan-Gassies and Meyney, and took part in a tasting of *Crus Bourgeois* at Château de Malleret.

Then at 5.30 p.m. on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June, after a solemn entry procession heralded by twelve knocks on the barrels in the spectacular Château Lafite Rothschild cellars, the young tasters competed in two rounds before a jury, presided by Baron Eric de Rothschild, his daughter Saskia and Emmanuel Cruse, Commanderie du Bontemps Grand Master, supported by a number of the brotherhood's *Commandeurs*, chateau owners and wine merchants.



The first round consisted of ten theoretical questions, requiring sound knowledge of wine and the world of wine, while the second tested the contestants' tasting talents.

#### One example question

Which chateau in Sauternes and Barsac has a parcel of the Muscadelle grape variety? Answer: **Château Doisy-Védrine**, Château d'Yquem or Clos Haut-Peyraguey.

#### The wines tasted

Series A:

Château Brane-Cantenac 2012 of the Margaux appellation  
Château Cantenac Brown 2011 of the Margaux appellation  
Château Durfort-Vivens 2011 of the Margaux appellation

Series B:

Château Saint-Pierre 2012 of the Saint-Julien appellation  
Château Brane-Cantenac 2012 of the Margaux appellation  
Château Gloria 2012 of the Saint-Julien appellation

Series C:

Château Coutet 2010 of the Barsac appellation  
Château Climens 2010 of the Barsac appellation  
Château La Tour Blanche 2013 of the Sauternes appellation

The winners of the 2022 Cup, Cornell University, were awarded a double magnum of Château Lafite Rothschild 2004 by Baron Eric de Rothschild. The SKEMA Lille team came second and were rewarded with a magnum of Château Lafite Rothschild 2004 and another of Château Rieussec 2006. The bronze

medal-winners from the University of St. Gallen received a magnum of Château Lafite Rothschild 2004 and another of Château Duhart-Milon 2006.

All the other competitors, who qualified - Agro Paris Tech, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, UCLA and UNIL - won a bottle of Château Lafite Rothschild 2004, a bottle of Château Rieussec 2006 and a bottle of Château Duhart-Milon 2006.



The SKEMA Lille team



The team from University of St. Gallen

After the competition, the happy finalists celebrated their participation in the contest at a dinner held at Château Lafite Rothschild. They were able to engage in conversation with the members of the Commanderie, who were present and of course with Baron Eric de Rothschild and his daughter Saskia, their hosts at this outstanding venue.

The overarching theme of this event was intergenerational transmission.



The Cornell University team with Saskia de Rothschild

#### About the Left Bank Bordeaux Cup

The Left Bank Bordeaux Cup was first organised by Commanderie du Bontemps in 2002, when it was called “20 sur Vin” (a pun in French meaning ‘20 out of 20’). With almost 60 teams competing in the world every year, it has become the leading international contest for wine clubs of universities and elite schools. Every year, after qualifying rounds on the different continents, the Final brings together eight teams, who compete in the prestigious cellars of Château Lafite Rothschild. The aim of this contest, presided over by Baron Eric de Rothschild, is to invite the future international elite to establish a relationship with the great wines of the Bordeaux Left Bank.

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