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Does vintage matter ? Bordeaux proves that it does, event for a \$14 bottle.

A screenshot of the Washington Post website showing the article header. The page has a dark navigation bar with the Washington Post logo and the tagline "Democracy Dies in Darkness". On the right side of the navigation bar, there are links for "Sign In" and "Subscribe". Below the navigation bar, the article title "Does vintage matter? Bordeaux proves that it does, even for a \$14 bottle." is displayed in a large, bold font. To the left of the title, there are social media sharing icons for Google+, email, and Twitter. Below the title, there is a small profile picture of the author, Dave McIntyre, and his name and title "By Dave McIntyre Columnist, Food" followed by the date "March 30". On the right side of the article header, there is a "Most Read Lifestyle" link.

In the next few weeks, wine collectors, importers, retailers and writers will flock to Bordeaux for “en primeurs,” the annual ritual of tasting the previous year’s wines. They will swirl, sniff, sip and spit raw 2017 wine that has barely finished its secondary fermentation and predict how it will taste in two or three years when released to the market — or in two or three decades. Then the reviews will come out, and the chateaus will announce their prices to be paid now for wines to be delivered later.



[...]

Take Chateau Moulinat 2015, for example, a lovely, easy drinking wine that combines the textbook aromas and flavors of Bordeaux — blackcurrant, plums and pencil shavings — with lively acidity that helps the wine improve over several hours or days. Or Chateau La Mothe du Barry 2016, dense and layered, with impressive complexity and a nervy electricity that, well, tastes more expensive than it is. Both wines are \$14.

These are available in the D.C. area and may have some availability in other markets. But there are inexpensive 2015 and 2016 Bordeaux everywhere that are worth exploring. That’s the power of vintage.

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