

BT brings Bordeaux wine to Keppel Bay

By Christopher Lim

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BT's first Wine Night of the year on Tuesday had a spectacular sea view, thanks to event sponsor Reflections at Keppel Bay.

"This has been a way for us to say thank you to our partners and those CEOs who have contributed to our Views From The Top section, and I'm glad our Wine Nights are recession resistant and will continue this year," said BT Editor Alvin Tay.

Wine educator Lim Hwee Peng walked guests through an eye-opening selection of French wines from Bordeaux's celebrated Left Bank, courtesy of sponsor NTUC FairPrice Just Wine Club.

Despite the limited amount of speaking time Mr Lim was allotted, he managed to cover the salient characteristics of the six wines sponsored by NTUC. The water-side venue was especially appropriate for Mr Lim's explanation of the division of Bordeaux into regions on the left and right of the Gironde River.

Many of the guests were particularly impressed with Mr Lim for delving below the basics to share practical advice, such as to focus on acidity when tasting Sauternes and to moderate expectations of fruit aromas when tasting older wines.

Not everyone was familiar with the six Left Bank wines of the night which encompassed, in tasting order, La Chapelle De Meyney 1999 Saint Estephe, Chateau Fourcas Dupre 2001 Lustrac-Medoc, Chateau Lynch



YEN MENG JIN

GOOD WINE, GOOD COMPANY

Guests at BT's Wine Night had a chance to learn more about a wide selection of French wines from Bordeaux's celebrated Left Bank, courtesy of sponsor NTUC FairPrice Just Wine Club

Moussas 2004 Pauillac, Alter Ego De Palmer 2004 Margaux, and Chateau Belgrave 2000 Graves, topped off with a sweet Chateau Romieu 2004 Sauternes.

The first three wines appealed most to Anil Wadhvani, Citibank's Singapore head of consumer markets. Simmons marketing manager Michelle Ng liked the Pauillac best, but wasn't a fan of the Grave, which polarised guests' taste buds that

night. You either loved it or hated it, with no one sitting on the fence.

The most educational wines of the lot, however, were the first and last. The Saint Estephe, as the oldest wine in the tasting, was a useful illustration of how fruit aromas begin to taper off. And the Sauternes, as the only white wine, reminded everyone of the wide variety available in Bordeaux.

The night's lucky draw was a

clean sweep for women, with PN Realty's Tanya Tian and Absolute Wine's Vivian Goh clinching the NTUC-sponsored Ashbrook 2004 Shiraz and 2003 Cabernet Merlot.

Euca Spa's Christina Tan won the Beneteau sailing yacht charter, sponsored by The Keppel Bay Sailing Academy, and Suntec Singapore's Leia Tan clinched The Admiral charter, sponsored by Marina at Keppel Bay.