



July 2015

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2005

*Classified Growth of Graves in Red and in White
Appellation Pessac-Léognan (A.O.C.)*

Vintage

A cold, dry winter was followed by a mild spring and a very dry summer. The relatively low temperatures and cool nights provided conditions that were favourable for the flavour expression of the future wines. Overall, the vintage was characterized by dry weather with a substantial water deficit (300 mm) over the summer period, further reinforcing the year's historically dry nature.

Mild weather enabled a steady growth cycle. Flowering began very early in June in optimal conditions. The climate favoured excellent health, which was further encouraged by various green harvest. Regular ploughing mitigated the effects of the drought. The white grapes began that veraison around 25 July, and the red grapes in early August. A great vintage was in the making. The rain in mid September helped to refine the ripening phase of the red grapes. The harvests took place in very peaceful conditions, with grapes of exceptional quality. As soon as the wines had fermented, it was clear that this was a "Très Grande Millésime"!

Harvest period

Merlots
Cabernets

From 15 to 27 september 2005
From 29 september to 12 october 2005



Blend

Cabernet Sauvignon 55%
Merlot 40%
Cabernet Franc 5%

Technical Data

Total area (A.O.C.) 53 hectares
Area in red (A.O.C.) 46 hectares
Géology Well-drained gravels and clay gravels on shelly limestone and clay subsoil
Grape varieties 45% Merlot – 45% Cabernet Sauvignon – 8% Cabernet Franc – 2% Petit Verdot
Density of plantation 10 000 plants / ha
Pruning method Guyot double
Average yield 36 hl/ha
Vinification Thermoregulated stainless steel or oak vats
Fermentation 4 weeks and half - 28 to 30° C
Ageing Traditional oak barrels: 80% new oak
Ageing period 22 months
Oenologist Consultants Michel Rolland & Athanase Fakorellis

Tasting

Colour very deep red-black. (Still hints of purple). Clear, bright.

Nose delicate, distinguished. Well-ripened, red and black fruits. Freshness, hint of menthol, floral (violets), light notes of blackcurrant. Minerality, smoke and roasted aromas. Very complex.

Attack: mellow and rich. Tight, distinguished, vigorous tannic structure.

Lovely generous, broad mid-palate with a pleasant woodiness. Well-ripened red fruit, beautiful complexity and minerality with grilled, toasted notes. Very nice balance.

A fine wine with an exceptional potential to age. Very promising.

(Tasting on 28.01.2014 by the Château's team: owners, cellar master.)





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Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2005 Press Release

Robert Parker.com - June 2015

95 Gorgeously pure blueberry and blackberry fruit along with some notes of cassis, charcoal and licorice jump from the glass of this inky purple wine. An absolutely fabulous success for Malartic Lagravière, this full-bodied wine has sweet tannin, and is complex and long. Drink it over the next 25 years. Bravo!

Dirk De Mesmaeker - Bernard Sirot - Vignerons belges de Bordeaux - Déc.2012

Robe : magnifique robe rubis profonde. Nez d'une rare élégance aux notes multiples de fruits rouges et noirs, de vanille, de réglisse, de tabac et de cacao. Attaque suave et d'une grande élégance. Remarquables tanins très élégants bien intégrés dans une matière gourmande de toute beauté. Finale fraîche d'une longueur fruitée exquise.
Conseil gastronomique : gigue de chevreuil, râble de lièvre aux baies fruitées.

Jean-Marc Quarin - Guide Quarin des Vins de Bordeaux - 2011

17 Je le goûte souvent et le note à 17. Grand nez, mûr, fruité, frais, fin. Quelle douceur de l'entrée en bouche ! Quel fruité au milieu ! Le vin fond tout en étant riche, dans une grande persistance savoureuse et suave. C'est formidable.

Christelle Guibert - Mark O'Halleron - Decanter (UK) - December 2009

****** Wines of the year :** Firm fruit and real concentration. Lovely fruit flavors and rich texture with powerful tannins. Lots of promise, stylish. From 2019.

Jancis Robinson - February 2009

Score 16: Drink 2014-18. Rich, toasty nose. Very drying tannins. Reasonably dramatic – rather like a Magrez wine? Tarry finish.

Guide Hachette des Vins 2009 - Septembre 2008

***** Vin exceptionnel:** Ce superbe vin se plaît lui aussi à affirmer sa typicité. S'annonçant par une robe d'un rouge profond à reflets bleutés, il marque sa personnalité par des notes fruitées, confites, épicées et torréfiées, relevées de nuances fumées. Structuré, rond, gras et soutenu par un boisé sensible mais bien dosé, ce 2005 possède tous les atouts nécessaires à une grande garde. Pourquoi pas 10 à 15 ans ?

Bettane et Desseauve - Le Grand Guide des Vins de France 2009

Note 18 : Corps ample mais fin, arôme racé de cèdre, tanin noble, tout en nuances, superbe vinification. 2010 à 2025.

Roger Voss - Wine Enthusiast - June 2008

Score 92 : A deliciously black currant-flavored wine, with juicy fruit, plum skins and spice over the firm tannins. Great balance already shows through ; a finely poised wine.

Stephen Tanzer's - International Wine Cellar - May 2008

Good medium red-ruby. Spiced plum, mocha and nutty oak on the nose, lifted by flowers and minerals. Juicy, bright and energetic, with an insidious sweetness and lovely clarity to the flavors of plum and tobacco. Finishes with very good tannic spine and length. (Unfortunately, my sample of the fairly substantial 2007 was too reduced to assess.)

Wine Spectator - Tasting Report 2005 Bordeaux - March 2008

Score 90 : There's beautiful blackberry and toasty oak nose, with hints of licorice and meat. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a dark chocolate, fresh herb and currant aftertaste. Best after 2013.

Wine & Spirit - December 2007

Score 93/100 : "Among the famous wines have produced brilliant efforts".