



May 2014

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2010

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

Vintage

2010 was characterized by contrasting weather conditions. The winter was cold and dry, the spring alternated between sun and rain, while the summer was exceptionally dry (only 51 mm of rain in three months).

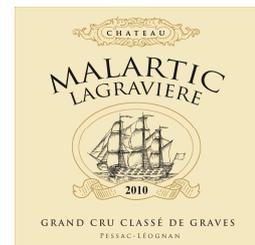
After a fine bud-break in early April, flowering took place in late May and early June, but struggled to finish, resulting in unevenness. Thinning and the subsequent weather were essential to correct or compensate for this lack of homogeneity (requiring three green harvests). As usual, September came to finish the task of ripening the grapes, with some rain at the beginning followed by exceptional sunshine and good temperatures that continued until 18 October. The harvests were calm and undisturbed. 2010 should present optimal quality.

Harvest period

Merlots	From 27 September to 09 October 2010
Cabernet Sauvignon	From 11 October to 18 October 2010
Cabernet Franc	From 08 October to 18 October 2010
Petit Verdot	14 October 2010

Blend

Cabernet Sauvignon	45 %
Merlot	45 %
Cabernet Franc	5 %
Petit Verdot	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: 75% new oak
Ageing period	20 months
Oenologist Consultants	Michel Rolland & Athanase Fakorellis

Tasting

Colour bright, clear, deep crimson with hints of violet.

Nose intense, complex. Black fruit, black cherries, delicate, elegant woodiness. Pleasant freshness.

Palate smooth, clean attack, developing power and elegance. Distinguished, but also with superb freshness and balance. Develops the same black fruit as in the bouquet (blackcurrants and blackberries). This wine has a substantial potential to age, with silky tightly woven tannins and a very long finish.

Still in its "construction" phase, the elegant woodiness will soon make way for a wealth of flavours.

(Tasting on 21.01.2014 by the Château's team: owners, cellar master, vineyard manager.)





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Press Release

Neal Martin - erobertparker.com - January 2014

91 Tasted blind at the Southwold Bordeaux 2010 tasting. The Malartic-Lagravière 2010 has a very modern nose with plenty of cassis and boysenberry notes, rendering it almost Margaux-like in character (something I picked up just over a year ago.) The palate is medium-bodied with sweet ravishing ripe fruit.

Dennis Tsorbias - New Hampshire Wine-Man (blog) - March 2014

93+ This Bordeaux was more full bodied, smoother, and more opulent as well, yet with good acidity and restrained moderate tannin (Very drinkable now), the flavors of ripe sweet fig, damson plum, hints of mulberry and blackberry were wonderfully delicious!
Finished long on the trailing palate with moderate heat (14.5% alcohol), an intensifying tannin, mint, and gentle spice notes.

Howard Kaplan - Executive Wine Seminars - January 2014

95+ \$70 - 20 points (2/7/0) Rating Fairly deep color. Gorgeous aromas recall cola syrup, dark cherry, minerals, spice, earth, leather and smoke. Noticeably tannic on entry, with lushness and ripe fruit flavors. With the exception of the "in-your-face" tannins, wine #9 has nice overall balance. In the context of this tasting, #9 is a "big boy." A few people find the tannins overwhelming, but most tasters admire this wine's structure, density, concentration and complexity. Long, driving finish turns somewhat bitter at the end. This is the best vintage of Malartic-Lagravière we've ever tasted.

Jancis Robinson - jancisrobinson.com - January 2014

17 Dark crimson. Rich and round. Savoury. Luscious. Drink 2020-2035

Jean-Charles Chapuzet - Le Spectacle du Monde - Février 2014

C'est un vin exceptionnel, élégant, concentré qui rivalise avec les plus grands noms de l'appellation.

Guide Hachette 2014 - 3 étoiles (Catégorie Vin Exceptionnel)

*****Coup de Cœur.** D'une belle teinte grenat, ce 2010 affirme une grande personnalité, très « graves » par l'élégance et la complexité de son bouquet : le fruit mûr (fraise) se mêle à l'amande et à la vanille, les vingt mois d'élevage en barrique ne cachant pas le fruit. Il confirme son caractère au palais où une trame tannique très serrée mais veloutée s'ouvre sur une longue finale savoureuse, épicée à souhait. Idéale pour la traditionnelle lamproie à la bordelaise, une bouteille racée à une grande garde, à attendre au moins cinq à 7 ans.

Izak Litwar - greatbordeauxwines.com - Tasting at Château Gazin Rocquencourt - September 2013

93 -94 Malartic-Lagravière noted in the many goodies among reds. 2010 red was powerful, packed with black cherries, fresh, with fine depth and structure, superb balance between sweet fruit and fat tannins, and firm aftertaste.

Philippe Maurange - Revue du Vin de France - Septembre 2013

19 L'une des très grandes révélations du millésime. Splendide couleur, nez magnifique de fruit noir avec une touche de graphite amenant une bouche pleine, dense, ronde, séductrice et mûre. Magnifique vin, de grand style.

Guide Bettane & Desseauve 2014

18 Aussi réussi que le 2009, avec le raffinement et la profondeur propres à ce cru. Grand fruit bien mûr, notes florales et fumées subtiles, texture harmonieuse, charmeuse, dense, avec une finale dense et énergique. 2015 à 20



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Press Release

Robert Parker - erobertparker.com - February 2013

94 *Lead pencil shavings, soy and barbecue smoke as well as red and black currants characterize this brilliant effort, which has an expansive, full-bodied mouthfeel yet a sublime elegance and lightness of being. Dense ruby/purple, gorgeous purity and a long, long finish of close to 50 seconds characterize another brilliant effort from this classified growth in Pessac-Léognan. It should drink nicely for 25-30 years yet is surprisingly accessible even today. A fabulous blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, this large (nearly 120-acre) estate near Haut-Bailly and Branon has tuned out another fabulous effort in 2010. Drink 2013 - 2043*

James Molesworth - Wine Spectator - February 2013

93 *Shows a hefty dose of toast, but remains polished and well-embedded in a core of crushed plum, steeped blackberry and cherry compote flavors. The long finish picks up briary energy, with anise and violet notes checking in. Best from 2016 through 2028.*

James Suckling - jamesuckling.com - February 2013

95 *Malartic-Lagravière noted 69ème among 100 wines. Impressive nose with leather, dark polished fruit and flowers. Wonderful mouthfeel with soft silky tannins and beautiful texture. Really well put together. Powerful and rich with loads of fruit and ripe tannins. Very ripe. Try in 2016.*

James Lawther - Decanter - June 2012

Noted in the top of 2010

******18** *Deep colour, restrained nose. Ripe extract and fine tannins. Drink 2018 - 2035.*