



July 2015

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2014

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

Vintage

Spring 2014 was pleasant with fairly good, uniform flowering at Malartic. July was fine, but August, which was initially wet and hot, and then very cool, caused a significant threat of mildew and then outbreaks of Botrytis on the white grapes at the end of the month.

Fortunately, on 27 August, a period of superb weather arrived that was to continue throughout the harvests. Decisions were fast and well-managed thanks to a reinforced team that worked hard throughout the growth cycle to compensate for these special conditions (meticulous removal of unwanted shoots and regular trimming; several rounds of leaf stripping; green harvests).

Ripeness progressed exponentially, enabling us to harvest very concentrated grapes that produced powerful, aromatic musts, enlivened by very good levels of acidity.

The red grape harvests ended on 21 October under sunny skies. The Merlot is dense, rounded and rich, with lots of volume. Very uniform, embodying a real Malartic style. The Cabernet is very clean, pure and long, with bright, almost sunny fruit, and a noticeable sweetness. The tannins present volume and flexibility. Remarkable!

This vintage offers amazing precision and great quality, largely due to the superb Indian summer, and enhanced by our growing techniques and management of the terroir.

Harvest period

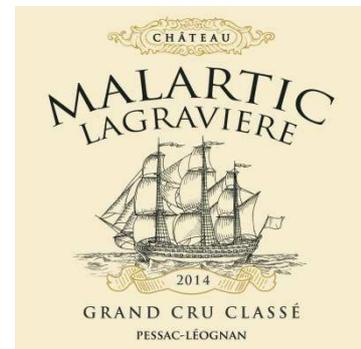
Merlots	From 30 september to 10 october 2014
Cabernet-Sauvignon	From 16 to 21 october 2014
Cabernet-Franc	8 october 2014
Petit-Verdot	9 october 2014

Blend

Cabernet-Sauvignon	52 %
Merlot	40 %
Cabernet-Franc	5 %
Petit-Verdot	3 %

Technical data

Total area (A.O.C.)	53 hectares
Area in red (A.O.C.)	46 hectares
Geology	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
Average age of the vineyard	31 years old
Pruning method	Guyot double
Average yield	42 hl/ha
Degree	13,5% vol
Harvest	Hand picking - Sustainable farming - HVE
Vinification	Thermoregulated stainless steel or oak vats
Fermentation	About 30 days - 28 to 30° C
Ageing	Traditional on fine lies in French oak barrels - New oak 70%
Ageing period	In progress
Oenologist Consultants	Michel Rolland





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Press Release

Neal Martin - erobertparker - April 2015

91 - 93 The Château Malartic-Lagravière 2014 is a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, representing just 42% of the crop. Yields came in at 42 hectoliters per hectare and the wine underwent a 28 cuvaision. Matured in 70% new oak, it has quite a rich bouquet with blackberry and iodine scents, well defined and turning quite floral with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with bold, ripe tannins, good depth of fruit with tarry, structured finish. It is a bold Malartic with a bit of chutzpah, though I suspect that it will mellow and attain more finesse with a few years in bottle. Drink 2020 - 2040.

Bettane & Desseauve - bettanedesseauve.com - Avril 2015

93 - 94 - (17 - 17.5) Noblement aromatique, superbement constitué dans ce millésime, complexe, harmonieux et surtout de forte personnalité.

Philippe Maurange - RVF - Avril 2015

17 - 18 Dense et généreux, c'est l'un des plus beaux rouges de Pessac-Léognan. Une magnifique couleur marque le vin avec un style dense et généreux réunissant le caractère frais de l'année (fine acidité), mais avec une constitution imposante. Indéniablement, il supportera un élevage long. L'un des plus beaux rouges des Graves, minéral, graphite.

James Suckling - jamesuckling.com - March 2015

93-94 This already shows beautiful aromas of blackberries, wet earth, stones and spices. Full-bodied yet polished and refined with a lovely fine tannin texture. Shows wonderful finesse.

James Suckling - jamesuckling.com - March 2015

As always Château Malartic-Lagravière is top quality and serious stuff in 2014 for reds and white alike.

Roger Voss - Wine Enthusiast - March 2015

93 - 95 Barrel Sample. This is a rich, rounded wine that has dusty tannins floating in the ripe wood and berry fruits. It has enough structure to age well, but is also generous and full-fruited on the palate. It ends with just the right amount of fresh acidity.

James Molesworth - Wine Spectator - March 2015

91-94 Quite ripe, with a large core of succulent blackberry, raspberry and black currant fruit, enlivened with a good brambly edge and followed by anise and tar on the finish

Jane Anson - Decanter - April 2015

18 (93/100) - Highly Recommended - Noted in her five personal favourites. Clear breeding and ambition. Damson, pencil lead and wet stones on the nose, full extraction, more so than many others but without losing a sense of vibrancy and grip. This is excellent within the context of the vintage, a real sense of floating above the tannins, one to wait for. Drink 2023 - 2040.



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Press Release

Antonio Galloni - vinousmedia.com - April 2015

91 - 94 Exotic and powerful to the core, the 2014 Malartic-Lagravière boasts considerable power allied to a real sense of tension. Scents of lavender, mint, herbs, crushed flowers and rose petal lead to a core of super-ripe plums and hard candy as this ample, bold wine shows its compelling personality. Bright floral notes add a little extra aromatic lift to the structured finish. The 2014 is going to need time to fully come together, but is impressive. The blend is 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot.

Rolf Bichsel & Barbara Schroeder - Vinum - Juin 2015

17.5 Ce n'est pas un secret, Malartic possède un terroir d'exception. Aujourd'hui, il est interprété avec brio : le vin allie une ampleur dosée avec précision à une fraîcheur et un racé uniques, les tanins sont raffinés, le bois imperceptible. Excellent vin qui devrait valoir un 18 une fois en bouteille.

Jancis Robinson - jancisrobinson.com - April 2015

16+ Particularly dark crimson. Somehow gives the impression that there are lots of hidden depths. But just a little sour with marked acidity. Rigorous and bone dry, with very drying tannins on the end. Some green vegy character towards the end.
Drink 2023-2036

Jeff Leve - thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2015

91 - 92 Plush, polished and lush with richness, concentration and a silky, round, fruit-filled finish.

Jeannie Cho Lee - The Pan - June 2015

90 - 91 Flavors are very ripe and almost jammy on the nose with a palate that is chunky and quite dense. There is immense intensity here that will take years for the components to weave together. Right now the wine is youthful and intense and the fruit is ripe and spicy.

Yves Beck - Beckustator - Mai 2015

90 - 93 Rouge rubis violacé. Nez de bonne intensité révélant des notes de réglisse et du fruit. Attaque friande et fruitée. Le corps est de moyenne intensité et doté de tannins granuleux. La structure est vive et, pour l'instant, les tannins semblent avoir de la peine à rivaliser avec celle-ci. Tous les éléments sont néanmoins réunis pour que le vin gagne en finesse et en densité durant son élevage. Un vin prometteur. Attendre 2022 - 2044.

Michael Schuster - The World of Fine Wine - June 2015

16 - 16.5+ Black-red; dense to smell, ripe black fruit, an immediate impression of considerable concentration ; and indeed, rich, concentrated finely and firmly tannic alongside the fresh acidity ; the typical Malartic abundance of deep, dark, ripe blackcurrant and blackberry fruit, long and dense and juicy.