



Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2018

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

Vintage

A year in two parts, resulting in a great vintage. Awesome!

The year was characterized by two contrasting periods of weather. Spring was particularly wet and warm, with record rainfall that caused major concern for the vines' health but, very satisfactorily contained. After a very **nice flowering** at the end of May - beginning of June, conditions changed dramatically in early July. The summer is sunny and warm with a few storms in August that brought some freshness. The **late season is spectacular**. Until the end of the Harvest mid-October, **perfect ripeness conditions** for the Merlot and Cabernet enabled them to develop refined tannins while preserving their flavours and aromas.

The wines had all the characteristics of a **great vintage**. 2018 was a very hot year, but this had relatively little effect on the aromatic profile of the white wines. They have superb balance, tremendous freshness, and a **distinguished, elegant character**. The reds are **beautifully crafted**. The Merlot offers a sublime mid-palate, with a silkiness and density that are rarely achieved. The Cabernet is **spectacular**, with exceptional aromatic profiles and levels of quality. The Petit-Verdets, co-fermented with the merlots, are particularly silky.

This superb 2018 vintage comes after more than 20 years of environmentally-friendly practices at Malartic, continually striving for the best possible quality. The vineyard's maturity is now giving its full expression, enabling us to obtain remarkable precision on the palate and incredibly well-defined tannins.

Harvest period

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Merlots | from September, 26 th to October 8 th 2018 |
| Cabernet-Sauvignon | from October 8 th to 12 th 2018 |
| Cabernet-Franc | October 2 th , 2018 |
| Petit-Verdot | October 3 rd , 2018 |

Blend

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Cabernet-Sauvignon | 57 % |
| Merlot | 36 % |
| Petit-Verdot | 4 % |
| Cabernet-Franc | 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 | 32 years old |
| Pruning method | Guyot double |
| Average yield | 35 hl/ha |
| Harvest | Hand picking - Sustainable farming - High Value Environmental certification* |
| 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 |



**(HVE, level 3 (the highest) since 2015. A unique reference of environmental quality, prioritizing biodiversity inside and all around plots.*



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Press Release

Winespectator.com – James Molesworth – 2018 Bordeaux Barrel Tasting: Red Bordeaux – 2019

92-95 This has a big ball of warm plum and boysenberry compote notes at the core, framed with a liberal dose of singed cedar and apple wood. Hasn't integrated fully yet, but there's good length and energy here, with a positive vibe.

Winemag.com – Roger Voss – The 2018 Bordeaux Vintage: The Judgment – 2019

95-96 Among the Top 4 reds of the vintage - This powerful wine combines juicy black fruits with concentrated tannins to good effect. This density and grip lends to excellent aging potential.

Larvi.com – Vladimir Kauffmann – Primeurs 2018, un millésime aux multiples facettes à Bordeaux – 2019

92

Jamessuckling.com – James Suckling – Bordeaux 2018: an exceptional vintage – 2019

93-94 Freshness and depth to this wine with blackberry, blueberry and crushed-stone character on the nose and palate. Full and flavorful, yet with underlying reserve.

Yvesbeck.wine – Yves Beck – 2019

92-94 Pourpre violacé. Bouquet complexe, subtile, révélant des notes fruitées et épicées. Belle symbiose entre des notes de fraîcheur et de maturité. Mise en bouche friande et compacte. Le vin a du corps, de la densité et un bel équilibre qui est souligné par la symbiose entre les tannins et la structure. Bonne intensité aromatique en fin de bouche où je retrouve la fraîcheur constatée au nez. Un vin de caractère, aux notes fruitées et florales en fin de bouche. 2023-2038

Quarin.com – Jean-Marc Quarin – 2019

16.5 ; 92

Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche – Bordeaux en Primeurs 2018 – 2019

94 Le nez est fruité, racé et offre de la structure. On y retrouve des notes de fraise des bois, de baies sauvages et plus légèrement de mûre associées à des touches de bâton de réglisse, de fleurs, de cardamome ainsi qu'une très discrète pointe d'épices. La bouche est fruitée, équilibrée et offre de la jutosité, une bonne définition, une jolie tension, de la précision, de la droiture, de la fraîcheur, une jolie minéralité ainsi qu'une fine trame acidulée. En bouche ce vin exprime de notes de cassis, de mûre et plus légèrement de cerise noire associées à de petites touches de fraise des bois, de baies rouges, de réglisse, de violette ainsi qu'à de fines pointes d'épices, de chocolat et à une imperceptible pointe de café (en fond). Les tannins sont élégants et très finement fermes.

The Wine Doctor – Chris Kissack – Bordeaux 2018: Pessac Léognan, red – 2019

93-95 The assemblage is 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, picked at a yield of 33 hl/ha. The alcohol is 13%. This has a really plush and charming nose, with crushed black cherries, smoky with notes of rose petals, cocoa bean, tobacco leaf and dark chocolate. The palate has a modern feel to it in keeping with the character on the nose, bold and broad, somewhat sinewy at first, but carrying a richer substance through the middle, the smoky fruit here supported by a wealth of tightly grained tannins. A very broad and confident style, elegant and silky, with a very supple integration carrying a lot of admirably perfumed fruit. The overall effect here is delicious, right through to the long and gripped finish. The élevage will be in 70% new oak.



Matthewjukes.com - Matthew Jukes – 2018 Bordeaux en Primeur report – 2019

15,5+ The oak is the main culprit here and it is responsible for bashing up the fruit. Too much furniture polish notes and too charry as well, this wine is unlikely to even out.

Thewinecellarinsider.com – Jeff Leve – 2019

94-96

Almost opaque in color with violet, purple hues around the rim, the wine is intensely concentrated. Opulent, silky, sexy and dense, the necessary addition of acidity keeps this focused in the right direction. The fruit offers a spectrum of black and red berries, smoky licorice and espresso infused plums. The velvet textured finish comes with lift, energy and length. This is a very polished, seductive expression of the vineyard. Produced from a blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, the wine reached 13.8% alcohol. Aging will take place in 70% new, French oak barrels for 18-22 months. The harvest took place from September 26 to October 12 and 55% of the harvest was placed into the Grand Vin.

Robertparker.com – Lisa Perrotti-Brown – Bordeaux 2018 en Primeurs – 2019

92-94 This is a blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, to be aged for 18-22 months in oak barriques, 70% new. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Malartic Lagravière gives scents of baked red and black cherries, warm blackcurrants and balsamic with touches of underbrush, moss-covered bark and tobacco. Full-bodied, firm and chewy in the mouth, it packs in the berry preserves with some pepper and spice sparks coming through on the long finish.

Decanter.com – Jane Anson – Best Pessac-Léognan and Graves 2018 wines -2019

95 Deep and rich in colour, this is more refined and subdued on the nose than some, with real focus, depth and layers. It needs time in bottle to unveil its potential as everything is curled up right now, from the blueberry and cassis fruits to the liquorice and chocolate touches. With time in the glass, the multitude of layers of spice and slate become apparent. It's a great quality wine that will not be rushed. 2% Petit verdot makes up the blend, with 70% new oak for ageing.

Drinking Window 2028 – 2045

Jancisrobinson.com – Julia Harding – Bordeaux 2018 Pessac-Léognan and Graves reds – 2019

16 Black core, cherry rim. Ripe damsons and blackberries, rich in fruit. Ripeness showing in a touch of mint. Then the tannins really take over on the palate, dry and chalky, though there is some freshness here to suggest it will open to reveal more. (JH) 13%
Drink 2024-2032

RVF – 2019

17-17,5

Markus del Monego – 2019

95

Weinwisser – 2019

17,5

Le Point – Jacques Dupont – 2019

15,5-16

Mybettanedesseauve.fr – Bettane & Desseauve – Primeurs 2018 : Le Tout-Bordeaux – 2019

94 Arômes intensément fruités, boisé et notes épicées très raffinés, un corps volumineux et harmonieux, avec une chair serrée, des tannins élégants et de l'allonge. Séducteur.



Jebdunnuck.com – Jeb Dunnuck – 2019

91-93 The medium-bodied 2018 Château Malartic-Lagravière comes from high-density plantings on gravelly soils and is a rough blend at this point of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc representing only 55% of the total production. Elegant notes of dark fruits (cassis, blackberries), gravelly earth, and forest floor all flow to a seamless Graves that has good balance, some grainy tannins, good mid-palate density, and ample length. It's certainly going to be an outstanding wine. Tasted twice.

Vinous.com – Antonio Galloni – 2019

The 2018 Malartic Lagravière is powerful, rich and explosive, all while retaining a mid-weight sense of structure. Black cherry, plum, gravel, chocolate, leather, lavender spice and licorice all run through this driving, juicy Pessac Léognan. I very much admire the weight and substance here. The blend is 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 3% Cabernet Franc, with the Cabernet very much front and