November 2021

La Réserve de Malartic Red 2018

2nd wine of Château Malartic-Lagravière
Classified Growth of Graves in Red and in White

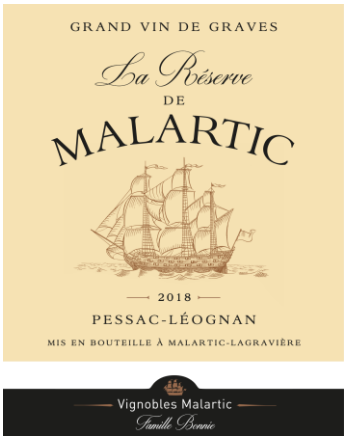
Vintage

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-Verdots, 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 26th to October 8th, 2018
Cabernet-Sauvignon	from October 8th to 12th, 2018
Cabernet-Franc	October 8th, 2018
Petit-Verdot	October 3rd, 2018



Blend

Merlot	58 %
Cabernet-Sauvignon	35 %
Cabernet-Franc	5 %
Petit-Verdot	2 %

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
Pruning method	Guyot double
Harvesting	Sustainable agriculture and High Value Environmental certification*
Average yield	22 hl/ha
Vinification	Thermoregulated stainless steel or oak vats
Fermentation	4 weeks and half - 28 to 30° C
Ageing	Traditional in French oak barrels
Ageing period	In progress. About 15 months
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

Wine Enthusiast –Roger Voss – March 2021
93 This second wine of Malartic-Lagravière is rich with smooth tannins and generous blackberry fruits. A soft texture, ripe fruitiness and fine depth and density all contribute to a wine that will age well over the medium-term. Drink from 2023.

WineSpectator.com –James Molesworth – February 2021
90 Gentle-edged, this red offers a mix of damson plum and cherry purée notes that glide through easily, lined with red tea and mineral hints. Graceful finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2027. 8,333 cases made.

Falstaff – Peter Moser – January 2021
92 Grenat carmin puissant, reflets violets, subtile éclaircissement des bords ocres. Confiture de fruits rouges frais, délicate comme le cassis, les cerises, subtiles épices de bois précieux. Cerises de cœur juteuses et sucrées, élégantes et fraîchement structurées, tanins bien intégrés, notes minérales, fruits rouges en arrière-goût, compagnon alimentaire stimulant, finale citronnée.
Kräftiges Karmingranat, violette Reflexe, dezente Ockerrandaufhellung. Frisches rotes Waldbeerkonfit, zart nach Cassis, Kirschen, dezente Edelholzwürze. Saftig, süße Herzkirschen, elegant und frisch strukturiert, gut eingebundene Tannine, mineralisch, rotbeerig im Nachhall, anregender Speisenbegleiter, zitroniges Finale.

La RVF – Guide des Meilleurs Vins de France – September 2021
89 Le millésime 2018 a livré un blanc démonstratif dans ses arômes, doté d'une chair étoffée. Intense lui aussi, beaucoup plus réservé, réglissé, le rouge conserve un élan qui met en valeur une forme élégante, articulant la fine tension des cabernets de graves - tension qui sera encore plus perceptible dans le très prometteur millésime 2019.

Le Point – Jacques Dupont et Olivier Bompas – Notre sélection : Pessac- Léognan 2018 - April 2021
14,5 Fermé, légère réduction, bouche souple en attaque, large, accrocheur, vif, tendu.

Vinous.com – Neil Martin – The Future's Not What It Was: Bordeaux 2018 - November 2019
86-88 The 2018 Réserve de Malartic Lagravière curiously shows no vegetal notes that I found on the Grand Vin. It is nicely balanced with light earthy tones infusing the black fruit, with a cedar-tinged finish. Oddly preferable to the Grand Vin comparing the two side-by-side.

Jebdunnuck.com – Jeb Dunnuck – May 2019
90-92 The 2018 La Reserve De Malartic is the second wine of Château Malartic-Lagravière. It's a medium to full-bodied, fleshy, impressively concentrated Graves that has ample fruit, some subtle oak and graphite, and classic earthy minerality. This beautifully balanced 2018 is going to drink nicely right out of the gate.

Jamessuckling.com – James Suckling – BORDEAUX 2018: AN EXCEPTIONAL VINTAGE – March 2019
91-92 Attractive second wine with blueberry and mineral character, medium body and a driven finish. Improvement.

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Jonathan Choukroun Chicheportiche– BORDEAUX EN PRIMEURS 2018 – April 2019
91-92 Le nez est fruité, frais et offre de la structure. On y retrouve des notes de cassis écrasé, de cerise noire et plus légèrement de mûre associées à des touches de petits fruits rouges écrasés ainsi qu'à de très fines pointes de réglisse et de graves/minéralité (terroir). La bouche est fruitée, équilibrée et offre de la tension, de la vivacité, une trame minérale, une belle tension, un touché soyeux ainsi qu'une fine minéralité saline. En bouche ce vin exprime des notes de cassis, de mûre et plus légèrement de cerise associées à des touches de baies rouges, de violette ainsi qu'à une discrète pointe de rose et de réglisse. Les tannins sont fins et bien menés. Bonne longueur. Présence d'une très discrète pointe de chocolat/toasté sur la persistance.

Yvesbeck.wine – Yves Beck – April 2019
88 Rouge grenat aux reflets violets. Bouquet fruité, de bonne intensité. Notes de cerises et d'épices. Frais et équilibré en bouche. Un vin juteux, agréable, gourmand, que l'on pourra déguster dans sa jeunesse. 2021-2025.

Robertparker.com – Lisa Perrotti-Brown – April 2019
86-88 Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 La Réserve de Malartic features vivacious red and black cherries, plums and blackberries with earth and herbs hints. The palate is medium-bodied, fresh, soft and juicy.

decanter.com – Jane Anson – April 2019
89 An extremely tasty, attractive second wine, with plenty of juice running through those cassis fruits. It tapers off through the finish but you can see the link to the grand vin.
Drinking Window 2022 – 2031

Vinous.com – Antonio Galloni – April 2019
The 2018 La Réserve de Malartic-Lagravière is a plump, easygoing red to drink over the near and medium term. Dark cherry, plum, menthol, licorice and new leather abound. The Réserve shows a bit of a heavier hand in extraction than the Grand Vin, but it remains a very pleasant second wine from Malartic Lagravière.