January 2022

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2015

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

Vintage

Uniformity and perfect weather conditions for a huge vintage.

The cold, wet winter was followed by a historically warm, dry spring until the end of July. Some welcome rain contributed to a perfect development of the ripening phase in August.

There was a magnificent period of Indian summer weather. A few spells of rain in early September and mid-October did not harm the grapes' excellent state of health and the steady progression in their degrees of ripeness. The red grapes' harvest started on September, 21st but most of them were picked between September, 29th and October, 7th. The Cabernet followed from October, 12th in radiant sunshine.

Uniformity and perfect health are the vintage's key characteristics. This result is a truly sublime expression of Malartic's mosaic of terroirs. Each plot has been able to reveal its full personality. The rich aromatic palette has been enhanced by a soft and tailor-made ageing that reinforced the expression of a very nice complexity.

2015, an impressive Malartic !

Harvest period

Merlots	From 21 september to 7 october 2015
Cabernet-Sauvignon	From 12 to 15 october 2015
Cabernet-Franc	8 october 2015
Petit-Verdot	8 october 2015

Blend

Cabernet-Sauvignon	53 %
Merlot	35 %
Petit-Verdot	7 %
Cabernet-Franc	5 %

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	43 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 80%
Ageing period	18 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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Château Malartic-Lagravière Rouge 2015

Press Release

Guide RVF des Meilleurs Vins de France 2020 – Panel de dégustateurs – January 2020
17,5 Illustrant parfaitement le renouveau de l'appellation, Malartic-Lagravière a spectaculairement progressé depuis son rachat, en 1998, par l'entrepreneur belge Alfred-Alexandre Bonnie. Avec son fils Jean-Jacques, sa fille Véronique et sa belle-fille Séverine, la Propriété a rattrapé en peu d'années le retard qu'elle avait accumulé lors de son passage dans le giron du groupe champenois Laurent-Perrier. Le vignoble, superbement situé sur une croupe de graves à l'arrière du Château, est parfaitement tenu, et les installations techniques modernes ont permis aux rouges de gagner en ampleur et en profondeur de corps, notamment grâce à un vignoble qui prend de l'âge et s'enracine davantage. Les rouges n'ont jamais été aussi bons et s'inscrivent parmi les plus intéressants de l'appellation. Les blancs adoptent également un style très abouti, travaillé et généreux. Un travail d'observation sur les élevages a conduit le cru à investir pour la vinification et l'élevage das des contenants en bois de 350 et 500 litres.

Chloe Ashton – Wine Lister – Must Buy Bordeaux – March 2020
94

Texsom IWA 2020 – Médaille d'Argent

Neal Martin – vinous.com – July 2019
94 The 2015 Malartic-Lagravière is bolder than its peers on the nose with blackberry, raspberry, iodine and light cedar aromas, quite upfront but nicely defined, pencil lead scents emerging with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with gentle grip, and well balanced. Pencil lead again, and infused black fruit toward the finish. It is not what you might describe as an "exciting" wine, but it is well crafted and it will reward bottle age. One for the patient among you. Tasted blind at the Southwold 2015 Bordeaux tasting.

Jancis Robinson – jancisrobinson.com – « Southholds 2015 » - February 2019
16.5 Tasted blind. Dark crimson. Zesty and vibrant but verging on raw in terms of the acid and astringency. Drink 2025-2038

Roger Voss – Wine Enthusiast – April 2018
96 Buying Guide Full of black-currant flavor, this firm wine has structure and a rich texture. Its bolstering tannins and vibrant acidity mark out an age-worthy selection. Spice tones and a dry core set the stage for a slow developement into an even more complex and fulfilling wine. Drink from 2025. Cellar Selection.

Bettane et Desseauve – En Magnum – March 2018
18 Superbe vin complet et racé, grande élégance, tannins soyeux, onctuosité et délicatesse : un très beau millésime de Malartic, que l'on pourra apprécier un peu plus tôt que d'autres grands vins du millésime.

Jane Anson – Decanter – March 2018
94 One of only six estates classified in both red and white. This is great, with rich, smoky coffee grounds and not a hint of bitterness. It's easily one of the best Malartics I have tasted, hitting another level and showing improvement from its en primeur state. Very enjoyable with great persistency, it's not trying too hard but still makes its presence known.
Drinking Window 2023 - 2040

James Molesworth - Winespectator.com - March 2018
92 A slightly high-pitched style, with a mix of red currant and raspberry fruit laced with rooibos tea and blood orange notes. A good snap of licorice adds weight on the finish, showing a flash of tar. Has sneaky depth and should evolve well in the cellar. Best from 2020 through 2028. 10,000 cases made.

Antonio Galloni – Vinous - February 2018
96+ The 2015 Malartic Lagravière is just as fabulous from bottle as it was from barrel. Rich, voluptuous and dramatic, it captures all of the natural intensity of the year. Black cherry, plum, mocha, chocolate, licorice and French oak build into a crescendo of stunning aromas, flavors and textures. This is in an especially dark, sumptuous style, but it all works beautifully. The 2015 was positively thrilling each of the three times I tasted it. 2023 - 2035

James Suckling - jamessuckling.com – February 2018
96 Deeper wine from the get-go with dark violets, mocha, cassis and blackberries. The palate has suave, smooth and sturdy tannins and terrific length. Very polished and seamless with flavors of fresh black cherries, blackcurrants and blue plums. Best from 2022.

Yohan Castaing – Gault & Millau – February 2018
17 Cassis, très fruits noirs avec de l'élégance. Une belle gestion de l'acidité pour un vin plus long que large, à la trame tannique serrée et précise, à la finale longue. Une belle expression de l'appellation avec un potentiel de garde d'une dizaine d'années.

Lisa Perrotti-Brown - robertparker.com – February 2018
92 Top 40 Bdx Red wine Bargains for 2015 (under $50)
Aged 18 months in French oak barrels, 80% of which were new and 20% one-year-old, the 2015 Malartic Lagraviere is a blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, and 7% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, it has notes of crushed black currants, fresh black berries and black raspberries with hints of tar, dried herbs and garrigue. The palate is medium-bodied, energetic and refreshing in the mouth with firm, grainy tannins and an uplifting finish. 2019 – 2033

Stephen Brook - Decanter - January 2018
94 Michel Roland is the consultant, so Merlot plays an important role. The blackcurrant noze oozes charm. Rich bu understated, oaky and textured, with a spicy complexity that leads to a poised finish. Drink 2020-2035 Alc 14%

Jeb Dunnuck - Jeb Dunnuck.com - November 2017
92 The 2015 Malartic-Lagravière is also terrific and cornes from a 46-hectares vineyard in Léognan. Made from 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, it offers a smorgasbord of aromatics including red currants, ripe cherries, cassis, licorice, toasty oak, and spice. With full-bodied richness, building tannin, and a rounded, sumptuous style, as well as a great finish, it's going to benefit from several years in the cellar and keep for 15-20 years. Tasted three times.

Olivier Poels – RVF Hors série - November 2017
17,5 Malartic-Lagravière 2015 impressionne par sa puissance, sa densité, la belle maturité de son fruit qui demeure vibrant. Impressionnante finale explosive.

Yves Beck - Le carnet de dégustation d'Yves Beck - February 2018
94 Pourpre aux reflets violets. Bouquet complexe, aux notes fruitées et épicées. Beaucoup de finesse, agréables effluves de baies noires. Attaque friande et fruitée. Au palais, le vin est crémeux et doté d'une structure qui lui confère de la fraîcheur et du caractère. Elle soutient parfaitement le caractère aromatique jusqu'en fin de bouche. Les tannins sont denses et bien intégrés. Finale fruitée et persistante. Un vin gourmand mais également puissant, doté d'un excellent potentiel de garde. Bravo. 2023-2040

Guide Bettane & Desseauve 2017
17,5 - 18 Puissant

Panos Kakaviatos - www.wine-chronicles.com - June 2016
92 94+ Somewhat roasted on the palate, just after having assessed the brighter Olivier, so here we have a riper style, with oak evident but never aggressive. Let's talk about seduction and solid expression at the same time, shall we? I would have liked just a bit more freshness to increase a notion of elegance, but barrel ageing will soften things out, and it will be a darn tooting, delicious wine!

Jeannie Cho Lee - The Pan - June 2016
94

Sylvie Tonnaire - Terre de Vins - May 2016
18 Coup de cœur. Dès le nez, le vin joue dans la cour des très grands. Entre délicatesse framboisée, cerise noire épicée et accents de truffe noire, on plonge littéralement dans le verre. Parmi les plus belles réussites de l'appellation, une vraie ballerine.

Rolf Bichsel Barbara Schroeder - Vinum - May 2016
17 Gut gebaut, kompakt, dicht, hoher, aber nicht übertriebener Extrakt, frisches, fruchtiges Finale; durch und durch gelungen.