



February 2022

Château Malartic-Lagravière Red 2016

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

Vintage

Extreme weather conditions resulted in an exceptional vintage

A particularly wet winter and spring promised good yields. One of the best summers of the decade, with a long dry period, brought power and concentration. A remarkable late season, with substantial differences in temperatures, ensured **elegance for this exceptional vintage**. Each of these stages, with an extreme climatology, has been chained with a **perfect tempo**: This is the singularity of this vintage.

Flowering was rapid and uniform and summer extremely hot and dry. But Malartic vines' deep roots were able to find water reserves in the clay-limestone subsoil and benefit fully from the summer heat. The grapes changed colour with the same uniformity as the flowering.

After the very dry conditions, the rain on 13 September (40 mm) was welcome. An Indian summer lasted through to the end of the harvests with some big differences between the day and night-time temperatures, encouraging the accumulation of anthocyanins and aromatic richness.

For the red wines, the vintage is in the "exceptional" category. We have rarely seen such substance and balance in both polyphenolic and aromatic terms. Long and slow ripening has refined the tannins and developed complexity in the flavours and aromas, while maintaining plenty of freshness. **Exceptional and superb.**

Harvest period

Merlots	from 29 September to 12 October 2016
Cabernet-Sauvignon	From 13 to 20 October 2016
Cabernet-Franc	13 October 2016
Petit-Verdot	12 October 2016

Blend

Cabernet-Sauvignon	53 %
Merlot	40 %
Cabernet-Franc	4 %
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	46 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 2016

Revue de Presse

Roger Voss – winemag.com – April 2019

96 The Bonnie family's estate has produced a richly structured wine, full of the ripe tannins indicative of the vintage. To balance the structure, powerful flavors of black currant and dark berries give ripeness. It is a wine to age; drink after 2026.

James Suckling – jamesuckling.com – February 2019

96 I love the deep and complex nose, in which the cassis and mint of cabernet sauvignon are beautifully married to the more generous blackberry of ripe merlot and the vanilla and toasty notes from the oak are marvelously integrated. On the palate it creeps up on you slowly; the first impression is ripe yet delicate, then the fine-grained tannins charge through and light up the sky. Very long finish. Drink or hold.

Jane Anson – Decanter.com – May 2019

95 The colour is rich and deep but with luminosity that gives nuance and fresh air. It's a lovely 2016, poised but not as powerful as some in the vintage, yet every inch the sophisticated reflection of the appellation. Restrained grilled berry fruits take their time to unfurl. It's still very closed but the liquorice and slate notes become clearer after 10 minutes in the glass, and the wine has already deepened in the few years since bottling. 3% Petit Verdot completes the blend. Yield 46hl/ha.

Drinking Window 2026 – 2042

Neal Martin– Vinous.com – January 2019

95 The 2016 Malartic-Lagravière has a wonderful bouquet of perfumed, mainly red fruit laced with potpourri, black olive tapenade and light brine-like aromas - a bouquet full of personality. The fresh, harmonious palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, a fine bead of acidity and just the right amount of salinity toward the loam-tinged finish. Bon vin from the Bonnies.

2023 – 2045

Jeff Leve - Wine Insider – September 2019

95 Deep in color, here you find a wine with concentration, round, supple textures and silky tannins, The fruit shows maturity with its sweetness and its serious depth of flavor. Full-bodied, plush and polished, the long intensive finish serves up dark, red berries, licorice, espresso and smoke. This will be a much better wine with age, so give it at least 7-8 years before opening a bottle, if you can wait that long!

Jeb Dunnuck – jebdunnuck.com – February 2019

94 As to the red, the grand vin is the 2016 Château Malartic-Lagravière (53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot). Aged in 80% new barrels and hitting 13.5% natural alcohol, it offers a deep purple color with beautiful cassis, tobacco, crushed rocks, and subtle incense aromas and flavors. Balanced, medium to full-bodied, and straight-up seamless on the palate, it's another brilliant Graves that offers ample pleasure today yet will keep for 20+ years or more.

Olivier Poels – Hors-série RVF– Surprenant, excellent le bordelais au sommet - November 2019

17,5 Le Malartic est superbe, très défini, avec une expression fraîche du fruit, une bouche à la fois moelleuse et énergique. 57,60 €

Andreas Larsson – Tasted By Andreas Larsson – February 2019

95 Professional Comment: Ripe and floral nose with lifted aromas, cassis, raspberry, violet, tobacco with nuanced oak. Very dense core, plentiful fruit with crushed red berries, dark plum, an aromatic herbal spiciness, fine oak, tobacco and a long powerful finish.

Social Network Comment: Classic



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Antonio Galloni- Vinous.com – January 2019

94 The 2016 Malartic Lagravière offers a deeply intriguing interplay of rich red/purplish berry fruit and fresher, brighter notes that give the wine its sense of delineation. Lavender, rose petal and mint add striking high-toned nuances to this finely cut wine. The 2016 has turned out beautifully. Most important of all, it is impressively delicious today. 2022 – 2041

Jane Anson- Decanter.com – January 2019

94 I tasted this separately in this line up, and at the chateau, and both times confirmed that this is a high quality, extremely well made wine in the style of Rauzan Ségla - sexy but restrained, classy and well extracted. It's well made, delivering its fruit just when and where you want it, not a step out of place. One of the standout surprises of the vintage; great quality.

James Molesworth – WineSpectator.com – February 2019

92 Ripe and fresh, with bright cherry, plum and currant pâte de fruit flavors that have a racy edge while roasted apple wood, sweet tobacco and red licorice notes fill in through the lengthy finish. Thoroughly delicious, and approachable now or capable of some cellaring. Drink now through 2030. 11,250 cases made.

Chris Kissack – thewinedoctor.com – January 2019

95 A blend only just dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, at 53%, with 40% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot. The élevage was in 80% new oak. On the nose I get smoked black cherry, with a fresh raspberry lift and a little curranty depth. The start of the palate oozes harmony and seamless confidence, with a lovely backdrop of ripe and svelte tannins. This has a fabulous fruit profile, showing very fresh and bright, leading into a wonderfully energetic, vibrant and cleansed finish, one loaded with tightly knit tannin. This is an excellent result with a bright future ahead of it.

J. D'Angelo – International Wine Report – January 2019

94 The 2016 Château Malartic-Lagravière is another sensational release from this estate. This blend of 53% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot which is sourced from the estate's gravelly soils with alluvial deposits from millions of years ago. The wine itself begins with pretty aromatics of dark raspberries, cassis and hints of blueberries along with licorice, spices, spring flowers and wet stones all developing in the glass. On the palate this medium-plus bodied red is beautifully structured with lovely ripe fruit and bright acidity keeping it well balanced through the finish. A beautiful wine which should begin to show its best after some short-term cellaring.

Yves Beck – Yvesbeck.wine – January 2019

94 Rouge grenat aux reflets pourpres. Quel bouquet invitant ! Intense, complexe aux notes fruitées et épicées. J'y relève des notes de cannelle ainsi que des baies rouges et noires. Finalement je relève de filigranes notes d'élevage et une touche fumée. Au palais, le vin est harmonieux, frais et fruité. Les tannins combinent bien leur puissance avec la fraîcheur et la vivacité de la structure. Un vin mérite un peu de garde. Bravo ! 2024-2041

Panos Kakaviatos – wine-chronicles.com – March 2019

92 After a somewhat off bottle at Château Bouscaut, I was relieved to try it again in Philly, and it was excellent. For me in this vintage, for this estate, the tannic power comes to the fore more than elegance. Indeed, the palate shows quite a bit of density and heft, and it was not for nothing that before the tasting in Philly, wine reps said that 2016 can come across as less flattering from bottle as the 2015 one year ago. This wine, clocking in at 13.5% alcohol, is a case in point, but it should be lovely after about five years of cellaring.

Alexis Goujard, Jérôme Baudouin – RVF Hors-Série – Novembre 2018 “Les stars de l'année 2018”

17,5 Un étonnant potentiel, avec du muscle et surtout un fruit plein d'éclat. Un pessac rouge juteux et très défini.



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Guide des Vins Bettane + Desseauve 2020

******18/20**

Sylvie Tonnaire - Terres de vin - May 2017

18,5 Densité, profondeur, parfaite maturité, tanins fins serrés les uns contre les autres, on croque le fruit parfaitement « al dente ». La minéralité se pointe, soutien du fruit, tout en délicatesse. Une très grande réussite cette année.