

Château Jean Faux 2012

CSPC# 756495

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Bordeaux Supérieur

Classification

Grand Vin de Bordeaux

Organic

Certified organic – since 2011

Website

<http://www.chateaujeanfaux.com/>

General Info

Chateaux Jean faux is an old castle with origins that date back to the middle ages. Its history links it to the Knights Templar, who chose it as a stronghold on the left bank of the Dordogne. It has been producing wine since 1850. After decades of working as a Saury wine barrel cooper, Pascal Collotte had always said that he would never buy a vineyard unless it was utterly perfect in every way, complete with a pond, an orchard and rolling pasture. Secure in his skepticism that nothing so perfect could possibly exist, everything changed when he laid his eyes on the Château Jean Faux. His purchase of the property in 2002 is proof positive that Bordeaux is still full of surprises! Just outside the appellation limits of Castillon, this property is located on fairly steep slopes dominated by pine trees, which create a micro-climate. At the bottom of the slope is a small river that also has a tempering effect. Pascal's first vintage was in 2003 under the guidance of consulting winemaker Stéphane Derenoncourt, with whom the château has worked ever since. Château Jean Faux has been practicing organic since 2009.

Vineyards

Château Jean Faux is an 11-hectare estate, owned and run by Pascal Collotte, where vines are grown on a sloping clay-limestone soil, very close to the Dordogne river. In the words of Eric Asimov, writing in the New York Times, Aug 24, 2010: 'at Jean Faux, the Collotte's live what seems to be a fantasy of the winemaking life. They fill closets with preserved fruits and vegetables, and raise pigs to make hams, sausages and charcuterie, served with their own good red wine and rosé. Mr. Collotte farms his vineyards, largely of merlot, organically. Asked why, he looked incredulous and said, "Because I drink my wine.'" He also writes of the wines as being 'Gulpable red and rosé Bordeaux Supérieur'. These are amongst the most fine and elegant wines of Bordeaux, from the wine-making school that great Bordeaux doesn't have to be aged for 20 years.

Certified as biological from 2011. Varieties: 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc
Cultivation, de-budding, de-leafing, green harvest. Hand harvested in crates.
Hand sorting of berries on a vibrating sorting table. Area in production: 11,5 ha
Vine density: 7,400 vines/ha. Average age of the vines: 25 years old
Soils: Clay and limestone plateaus and hillsides

**Vinification/
Maturation**

Small stainless steel and cement tanks of 40 to 80 hectolitres
Fermentation: 20 to 30 days. Pre-fermentation cold maceration. 10 to 15% 'saignée' (drawn off must) of the volume. Partial micro-oxygenation during fermentation.
Malolactic fermentation in barrels. 12 to 14 months in barrels and six in tanks 100% French oak 'Saury' barrels; 40% in new oak and 60% in one wine and two wine barrels
Partial micro-oxygenation during ageing. Ageing on lees and stirring if necessary (12 to 14 months). Fining and filtration before bottling

Tasting Notes

The nose is of cherries, milk chocolate, and cassis. It is beautifully balanced and absolutely delicious now. It is medium bodied and almost Pinot Noir like in its texture. It has none of the astringency that is sometimes associated with the wines of Bordeaux and in spite of this elegance it has the fruit and acid structure that will enable it to age gracefully for several years to come.

Serve with

Sophisticated and elegant, it pairs well with game meats, roast lamb, or hearty beef stews.

Production

4,000 cases made annually



Cellaring Drink now-2020

Scores/Awards **89-91 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013

86 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only)

87-89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 26, 2013

Reviews *"Features a solid, juicy core of plum and blackberry fruit, with a flash of anise and a pleasant briary tug on the finish. Score range: 88-91"*

- JM, Wine Spectator

"90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc produced an earthy, black raspberry- and licorice-filled wine with an open, easy-to-like personality. 87-89 Pts"

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
