

Château Côte Montpezat Cuvée Compostelle 2012

CSPC# 749545

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot

Appellation

Côtes de Castillon

Website

<http://www.cote-montpezat.com/EN/>

General Info

Bought back in 1989, the Château Côte Montpezat is situated in Belvès de Castillon on the appellation of controlled origin Côtes de Castillon. The estate has been owned by Dominique Bessineau since 1989.

This wine is named after an old legend which says that those who listen closely inside the well at Château Côte Montpezat can hear the pilgrims of Saint Jacques de Compostelle. When crossing the grounds of this château, these pilgrims quenched their thirst in the well, and an ancient document of the XVII century attests this stopover.

Vintage

After the very cold and dry winter of 2011–2012, bud break lasted throughout April. The rains of April and May, coupled with mild temperatures, resulted in significant mineralization and strong vegetative growth of the vines.

Flowering was late (29 May) and drawn out, with a delicate fruit set. The old Merlot plants have at times seen yields reduced due to coulure (shatter, a failure of the fruit to set) or millerandage (shot grapes, incomplete development).

There was settled summer weather from 15 July, with the hottest August since 2003, allowing partial recovery of the growth cycle. From mid-July onwards, 2012 was one of the driest vintages of recent years (along with 2005, 2009 and 2010), resulting in a significant water deficit (120mm lower than the thirty-year average). Ripening in early August was prolonged, with peaks of temperature from July to September and reduced rainfall. The biggest daily temperature difference recorded was 12.9°C, the highest in eight years, favouring a high level of anthocyanins and aromatic intensity. September and October were mild, close to the seasonal norm (27–28°C on 5 October).

Vineyards

Usually aged from 27 to 30 years, on a clay and limestone earth and fully exposed to the southern sun, the vineyard is 30 hectares in size and is composed of a 70 % Merlot variety, 20 % Cabernet Franc and 10 % Cabernet Sauvignon. 40 Kms to the East of Bordeaux, in the prolonged area of the appellation Saint-Emilion. Here one will find the appellations Puisseguin Saint-Emilion and Côtes de Castillon. It is on this limestone and clay earth that are born the great wines we provide.

Harvest

100 % handpicked. Average yield: 49 hectoliters / hectare

Maturation

Bottled at the castle after 18 months of aging without fining or filtration. Barrels in which to mature red wines come from Lafite Rothschild, Smith Haut Laffite and Pape Clément and for white wines from Château d Yquem.

Tasting Notes

The nose reveals warm aromas and notes of ripe fruit associated with a few notes of spices, dried leaves and wood. The palate is fresh, relatively precise and reveals a certain tension. In the mouth it expresses notes of blueberry, blackcurrant and strawberry associated with a few notes of sweet spices (especially vanilla) and wood. Good length.

Serve with

It will taste ideally at a temperature of 16 ° -18 ° with red meats, game, stews as lamprey, veal and hard cheese. It will be very pleasant to drink young, but its terroir allows a long aging between 10 and 15 years.

Production

3,500 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2015-2019



Scores/Awards **84 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - December 31, 2014
87-90 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013
86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #206 - April 2013
84-86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #218 - April 2015
84 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - December 31, 2014
16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2013 (score only)
15 points - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2013
85 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
86 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only)
84-86 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2013
82 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - April 2013

Reviews *"A roasted cedar note leads the way, followed by a mix of steeped plum, tomato and tobacco accents, melding easily through the slightly soft finish. Drink now. 3,500 cases made"*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Bright beet, raspberry and pomegranate notes race along here, with a solid spine of licorice holding the finish together. Should fill in well enough. Score range: 87-90"
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Soft, round and juicy plum, blackcurrant and cherry fruit are present in this near-term, precocious and medium-bodied wine. It is already drinkable and best consumed over the next 4-5 years. It is a tasty 2012."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Bright beet, raspberry and pomegranate notes race along here, with a solid spine of licorice holding the finish together. Should fill in well enough. Score range: 87-90"
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Firm, tannic and hard, this tight wine has a solid core of dry wood. It seems over-extracted with its bitter coffee flavors. Fruit is hard to come by, although there is weight that could develop."

"Soft, dark fruit but marked by the char of the barrel. Palate soft and easy."
- Decanter.com

"Saturated, slightly looser at the meniscus than some; soft, easy and open; perfumed; oak here; masks the fruit a little; dryness to the palate. Oaky. May settle. 84-86? Tasted at the Cercle de Rive Droite, Sunday, 7th April 2013"
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

"Easy to approach, very open red with simple blackberry fruits. The tannins are a bit rustic and the flavours are simple. Drink while young. Tasted in: Bordeaux, France. Maturity: Young. (06-Apr-2013)"
- JCL, asianpalate.com
