

## Château Belle-Vue 2009

CSPC# 749534

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**General Info**

50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 20% Petit Verdot, 3% Carménère  
Haut-Medoc

Chateau Belle Vue is located in Haut Medoc in the commune of Macau. Petit Verdot is particularly important on this gravelly terroir making up 20% with Cabernet Sauvignon around 55% and Merlot around 25% also playing a part. Belle-Vue is established in 1996 when the previous owner Rémy Fouin set apart his best (Gironville) vineyards with the aim of producing a wine of... say Margaux quality: Belle-Vue directly borders the 3rd classed growth Château Giscours.

Acquired in 2004 by Vincent Muller, Castle BELLE-VUE comes from a land whose history is intertwined with that of Bordeaux wine. Mulliez joked that it would be a good sign when one day people would describe Giscours "as the neighbour of the famous Château Belle-Vue." But until today this is the other way around, I'm afraid.

**Vintage**

A truly phenomenal year for the Left Bank, where the dominant, late-ripening Cabernet Sauvignon really flourished in the warm, dry climate. The softer, more alcoholic Merlot had less success on the Left Bank (with some growers finding themselves with 15.5% alcohol wines), but still enjoyed a fantastic year – 2009 really is about degrees of success, rather than hits or misses. However, if the Right Bank needed fine-tuning to achieve perfection, the Right Bank has it in spades:

"The finest 2009 left bank reds managed to be unequivocally Bordeaux - no "Napa Valley" or "New Worldly" in the tasting notes - while harnessing 2009's exceptional natural bounty: a dry, warm-but-not-scorching summer that lasted until mid-September when a downpour revitalised vines that were on the point of suffering from the prolonged drought. This was followed by another long, unusually fine period."

– Jancis Robinson, MW.

**Vineyards**

The vineyard is maintained with care and protection reasoned yields are restricted to obtain the best possible fruit maturity.

**Maturation**

Wines receive between 12 and 16 months in barrel to mature, with 40% of barrels being new and 60% having been used for one previous vintage.

**Tasting Notes**

The Chateau Belle-Vue, with the 2009 vintage, confirms its place among the references of the Haut-Médoc. A beautiful purple color. The nose is fruity and ripe. The palate is concentrated and fresh, highlighted by subtle tannins and perfect balance. One of the best quality / prices of the year!

**Production**

5,830 cases made

**Cellaring**

Drink 2012-2022

**Scores/Awards**

**89 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012

**88-91 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010

**91 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012

**90-92\* points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010

**87 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012

**89-91 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010

**15.5 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010

**16.5 points/4 stars** - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010

**88 points** - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010



**Reviews**

*“Sports a rather overt toasted spice and fruitcake profile, with ripe blueberry, blackberry and boysenberry notes backed by more toast and anise on the finish. Shows harmony despite the overt style, but this is a touch shy on length and purity for outstanding. Drink now through 2018. 5,830 cases made:*

*- JM, Wine Spectator*

*“Silky and beautiful, with berry and dark chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, polished tannins. Score range: 88-91”*

*- JS, Wine Spectator*

*“In a somewhat tragic twist, this over-achieving cru bourgeois in Haut-Medoc has turned in its finest wine to date, an unfined cuvee made from 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 20% Petit Verdot, created by the late proprietor Vincent Mulliez, who died suddenly last year. Sadly, this was his best effort. Notes of blackberries, black currants, licorice and a hint of toasty oak jump from the glass of this medium to full-bodied, well-endowed, impressively pure and textured wine. It should drink nicely for up to a decade.”*

*- RP, Wine Advocate*

*“Not to be confused with St.-Emilion’s Bellevue, this has been one of the most consistent Medoc cru bourgeois over a number of years, and the 2009 may reach new quality heights. A big-time sleeper of the vintage, this blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and 20% Petit Verdot boasts a dense purple color as well as notes of creme de cassis and spring flowers, terrific fruit, sweet but noticeable tannin, and medium to full body. It can be drunk young or cellared for 8-10 years. (Tasted once.)”*

*- RP, Wine Advocate*

*“Tasted at the Cru Bourgeois 2009 tasting in London. There is just a touch of reduction on the nose of the Belle-Vue 2009 although it opens up with aeration to reveal strawberry wine gums, cranberry and just of soy. The palate is medium bodied with a very polished entry, a core of sweet rather oaky fruit but a rather predictable finish. Not bad, but not quite living up to its promise out of barrel. Tasted September 2011.”*

*- NM, Wine Journal*

*“Tasted at Vintex. The Belle-Vue is very sweet and prune-scented on the nose with a shellfish aroma. The palate is glossy but well balanced, a fine thread of acidity, nicely focused with a grainy, cedar and tobacco tinged finish. Excellent concentration, but it is not over-powering and indeed, quite feminine in style. This is a judiciously crafted wine fashioned in a more modern style. Tasted March 2010.”*

*- NM, Wine Journal*

*“Dark purple. Intense and tarry on the nose. Lots of juice with minerality on the finish. Nice combo! Real vitality.”*

*- JR, JancisRobinson.com*

*“Dense colour, superb extraction of black berry fruits, fleshy and classy, very ripe, will mature well and impress. Drink 2013-20.”*

*- SS, Decanter.com*

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