

Château Belle-Vue 2010

CSPC# 749534

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 20% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Haut-Medoc

General Info

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 Mulliez, 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.

Vincent Mulliez passed away in 2010, at the age of 44.

Vintage

The 2010s are robust wines made from more aggressive and extreme conditions and their concentration comes from more extreme dehydration thanks to El Niño. They are the product of drought, of a more irregular sugar build-up in summer and a sudden re-concentration at the finish. And, most importantly, they get their higher acidities from the cooler August–September minimum temperatures and from the cooler autumn.

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

Good balance with a dense and soft, a powerful nose of red fruit and smoky oak. The freshness, the tannins. Many tastes, a great wine to keep stylish.

Production

9000 cases made

Cellaring

Drink now-2020

Scores/Awards

91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2013

88-91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011

89 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013

87-89 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - May 2011

88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - November 2012

88-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011

89 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast – February 1, 2013

87-88 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - Score only

17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - (no review)

16.5 points/4 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2011

88-90 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 21, 2011

89 points - Jean Marc Quarin (no review)

Bronze medal - Concours des Grands Vins de France Macon 2012

Silver medal - Concours des Grands Vins de France Macon 2011

Reviews

"Coated with suave toast and packed with ripe linzer torte, boysenberry and blackberry fruit, this displays great drive and energy, with mouthwatering anise and graphite driving the long finish. A lovely expression of the modern style. Drink now through 2020. 9,000 cases made."

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Rounded and enticing, with a mix of crushed blueberry, plum and raspberry fruit backed by spice and toasty vanilla hints. Not shy about the toast, but there's plenty of fruit as well. Score range: 88-91"

- JM, Wine Spectator



Reviews

"Another sleeper of the vintage from the southern tier of the Medoc, this wine is an exclusivity of Jeffrey M. Davies' Signature Selections. A blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and a whopping 20% Petit Verdot, the 2010 from this big property is a classy wine exhibiting impressive ripeness, a textured, medium to full-bodied mouthfeel, and oodles of cedary black currant fruit intermixed with tobacco leaf, licorice and incense. Complex, evolved and already drinking well, this wine should continue to offer considerable consumer appeal for at least 5-7 years."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"One of the finest over-achievers in the southern Medoc, Belle-Vue is a 36-acre vineyard situated close to Giscours. The 2010's final blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and a whopping 20% Petit Verdot hit 13.5% natural alcohol. The wine boasts a dense purple color along with sweet black currant, cherry, licorice and barbecue smoke notes, medium body, supple tannins and a refined, elegant, lusty style. It is the kind of low level Bordeaux that sells for a song and will make consumers happy."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the Crus Bourgeois 2010 tasting in London. The Belle-Vue 2010 has a light, agreeable bouquet with briary and sous-bois scents, hints of dried orange peel emanating with time. The palate is medium-bodied with a dry, tobacco-tinged entry. It is a little hard towards the finish, although there is good weight and it should soften with 2-3 years bottle age. Drink 2014-2020. Tasted September 2012."

- NM, Wine Journal

"The Belle-Vue 2010 has a ripe, toasty, almost exotic bouquet with a touch of Turkish Delight! But it has good delineation and purity – very pretty and enticing. The palate is ripe and extrovert with prominent vanillary new oak, quite tannic and sharp on the finish, very polished but perhaps a little predictable? Decent enough. Tasted April 2011."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Dark in color—partly from the blend's 20% Petit Verdot—this wood-aged wine is laden with an extracted toast flavor and tannins. It is very concentrated, with a flavor of black plum skin and berry-like acidity that contribute to its density."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Rich black berry fruits, elegantly extracted and good length, an elegant, polished wine. Drink 2014-20."

- SS, Decanter.com

"Chateau Belle-Vue from a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 20% Petit Verdot, oak, vanilla, forest floor, floral and cassis aromas open to a medium bodied, soft textured wine offering ample fresh cassis and dark cherry. 88-90 Pts"

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
