

Château Chasse-Spleen 2008

CSPC# 742337

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot, 7% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Moulis-en-Médoc

General Info

Chateau Chasse-Spleen is the leading estate of Moulis, a small and easily overlooked commune on the left bank of the Gironde, sandwiched in the No Man's Land between St Julien to the north and Margaux to the south. . At the time of the classification (in 1855), however, Chasse-Spleen did not exist as an independent entity, and so its absence is hardly surprising. As it is, the proprietors of Chasse-Spleen must today live with the title of Cru Bourgeois, having briefly flirted with fame as a Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel, the top tier in the subsequently annulled 2003 classification of Cru Bourgeois properties.

Vintage

2008 was marked by two climatic events: snow early April and hail end of July. However, from June to mid-July, the plant operates quietly. Then the sun and temperature do not take off in August. Without costs, August does not heat the expected and necessary. Heavy rains during the second half of the month create excitement. The need for a sun franc continues to September 13. The rest of September and all harvest period saw a turnaround thanks an ideal time: dry, cool night and warm day, sunny and slightly windy.

Vineyards

The vineyards of Chasse-Spleen are heavily parcellated, but lie not far from Arcins, to the south of the gravelly hill on which sits the village of Grand Poujeaux. The soils are mostly Garonne gravel, with some chalky clay mixed in, and the 80 hectares of vines, which average 30 years of age, are largely Cabernet Sauvignon (73%), with 20% Merlot and 7% Petit Verdot. The soils between rows are ploughed rather than planted, and harvesting is manual.

Harvest

Hand harvested. Merlot: 6- 15 October; Cabernet Sauvignon: 14- 20 October
Petit Verdot: 16 October

Vinification/ Maturation

The fruit is fermented in stainless steel and cement vats with temperature control, and then aged for between 12 and 14 months in oak barrels, of which 40% are new each year. The wine is fined with egg white before bottling.

Tasting Notes

Château Chasse Spleen produces wines rich, powerful and robust. The color is deep, the nose aromas of red fruits and cassis with hints of cocoa and oak, the palate offers elegant tannins.

Cellaring

Drink now-2019

Scores/Awards

16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - November 11, 2010
90-92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - December 31, 2009
87points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #184 - May 2011
85-87points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #182 - April 2009
87-90 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only, 2009
16 -17+ points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - April 2009

Reviews

"Barrel sample 90-92. A finely wooded wine, with a good balance between the ripe tannins, the bright berry fruits and fresh acidity."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"A little leafy on the nose and palate. Soft and fresh, maybe just a little bit lean Drink 2013-2018."

- JR, Jancis Robinson.com

"Soft, round, sweet red and black currant fruit intermixed with herb, damp earth and spice characteristics are present in this supple-textured, easygoing, medium-bodied 2008. Enjoy it over the next 6-8 years."

- RP, Wine Advocate



Reviews *"Barrel sample. While good, the 2008 is not up to the standards expected of this Moulis estate."*
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Barrel sample. Bright and fresh, with floral and blueberry flavors galore. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a crisp, clean finish. Score range: 87-90"
-JS, Wine Spectator

"A nice, very classic, rather cedary nose here, with some polished but dusty (an oxymoron, I suppose) fruit on the palate. Attractive, supple, with moderate weight and good fresh acidity, this has a nice concentration of tannin and overall is nicely judged and harmonious. Very good potential. From my 2008 Bordeaux primeur assessment."
- CK, Wine Doctor
