

Château Lanessan 2011

CSPC# 749575

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Haut-Médoc

Website

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

General Info

Château Lanessan is a Bordeaux wine estate in the Haut-Médoc appellation. It describes itself as Grand Cru Hors Classé and this refers to the fact that one of the previous owners felt it unnecessary to submit samples for the 1855 Classification and consequently its traditional ranking as a 4ème Cru Classé was never ratified. Lanessan is managed by G.F.A des Domaines Bouteiller and in 2009 Paz Espejo took over the management of the estate and the vineyards from Hubert Bouteiller. The chateau has a reputation for producing Cru Classé standard wines at Cru Bourgeois prices. Lanessan is located just to the south of Gruaud-Larose in the commune of Cussac-Fort-Médoc and has 40 hectares of vineyards. The blend is predominately Cabernet Sauvignon based and is aged in oak barrels for 18 months. The Lanessan vineyard has belonged to a succession of eight generations of the Bouteiller family since the 18th century. A young woman, Paz Espejo, took over the management of Château Lanessan from Hubert Bouteiller in August 2009. This change is a result of the Bouteiller family's stated ambition to inject new life into this fine property.

Vineyards

32 hectares (79 acres) of vineyards are planted with 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot. The soil is deep Garonne gravel. Average vine age is 30 years

Harvest

The fruit is harvested by machine at optimal ripeness and screened on a sorting table. The wine is made in coated concrete tanks with temperature regulation. The techniques used, the vatting period, rack and return and pumping over are adapted to the vintage and the characteristics of the fruit.

Maturation

Aged 12 months in French oak: 1/3 new, 1/3 one-year-old and 1/3 two-year-old barrels.

Tasting Notes

Tons of ripe fruit. Super flavor. Great value! This is stunning wine for the vintage. RS: Dark fruit and a touch of pepper. Attractive front to back, with good grip and tannin control. This is one of the great classics as far as values go-always good and dependable. It has a racy nose with hints of herbs, flowers and loads of red fruits. Nice creaminess. This is classic.

Production

16,000 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2013-2028

Scores/Awards

85 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #212 - April 2014
86-87 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2012
84 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 1, 2013
86-88 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - July 2012 (no review)
15.5 points - Decanter.com - April 2011
86-88 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 23, 2012
86 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2011 (score only)
15.5-16 points - Bettane et Desseauve - April 2012

Reviews

"A well-known Cru Bourgeois, the 2011 Lanessan is a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot. While tannic and austere for a Lanessan, it shows good purity, adequate ripeness, and a tough-textured finish. Drink it over the next 5-6 years."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"There is a slight greenness on the nose of the Lanessan 2011 that is a little disjointed at this early stage. The palate is medium bodied with dry, dusty tannins. It is foursquare, obdurate and earthy with a rather austere finish that will hopefully soften during élevage. Another bottle showed a little more fleshiness although it remained a little simple compared to its peers, though with a touch more elegance."

- NM, Wine Journal



Reviews *“An austere wine, serious and densely dry. It has some weight and a firm center, with the fruit lagging behind the structure. This is always likely to be tannic”*

- RV, *Wine Enthusiast*

“Good broad fruit needs time to open up. Drink 2015-2020. (15.5 points).”

- *Decanter.com*

“From 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot, the wine will be aged in 33% new oak. This wine is lightly colored, medium bodied, and ends with fresh cranberry flavors.”

- JL, *thewinecellarinsider.com*

“Cleverly made with tannins that are much finer than average, attractive fruit and complexity worthy of a Cru Classé. The wine shows clearly how this estate has been turned around.”

- Bettane & Desseauve

“All the basic hard work has paid off in 2011 with this elegant wine, its lovely concentration and fine tannins. It’s a great accomplishment. Clearly at Cru Classé level.”

- BB, *Le Figaro.fr*
