

Château Potensac 2006

CSPC# 103484

750mlx6

13.17% alc./vol.

Part of a Vertical Mixed Pack

Grape Variety	46% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	Médoc
Classification	Cru Bourgeois
Website	http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/potensac-chateau_potensac_vins.html
Analysis	Total Acidity: 3.40 gH ₂ SO ₄ /l pH: 3.65 ITP: 74
Sustainability	Sustainable agriculture is an essential point of the work of the vine.
General Info	<p>Potensac is owned by the same people as Leoville Las Cases, run by Jean-Hubert Delon. The estate is situated in the north of the Medoc, between the villages of Blaignan and Ordonnac.</p> <p>Quality at Potensac has been on an upward curve ever since Michel Delon (of Léoville-Las-Cases) fame took over the running of the property in the 1970s. He sadly passed away in 2000 and Potensac is now run by his dynamic son Jean-Hubert, with the assistance of maître de chai Pierre Rolland, brother of guru oenologist Michel Rolland.</p>
Winemakers	Pierre Rolland – cellar master
Vintage	The spring of 2006 was very cool, but the nice weather in May gave an even blossoming. July was marked by ten very hot days whereas August was rather cool and dry. The first ten days of September were also dry and hot and then there was a rainy period before picking. When it came to harvest-time the dry weather had however returned and allowed the crop to be picked in good conditions
Vineyards	The vineyard of Château Potensac extends mainly over limestone subsoil covered with clay-gravel hillocks with a high proportion of gravel. These limestones are very similar to those found in the Saint-Estèphe appellation. This singular terroir has plots of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc planted over 80 years ago, producing perfectly ripe and healthy grapes. The first edition of Féret already mentioned the hamlet of Potensac for the typicity and longevity of its wines.
Harvest	Harvested between 20th September to 2nd October
Vinification/ Maturation	The grapes at Potensac are hand-harvested and then vinified in a combination of temperature-controlled, concrete, and stainless-steel tanks. The wine is matured in small oak barrels (20% new) for 14-16 months.
Tasting Notes	The Potensac vineyards have similar soils to St Estèphe, and this really comes through in this elegant, earthy wine. Made from 46% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Cabernet Franc it has a restrained, precise nose of red and black fruit, followed by attractive, pure plum and raspberry flavours with cedar and mineral hints and a good tannic structure. This well-balanced Médoc with oodles of class is a great buy for anyone who appreciates classic Claret at a reasonable price.
Serve with	Chateau Potensac is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. The wine of Chateau Potensac is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Cellaring	Drink 2016-2025
Scores/Awards	<p>86 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 2009 85-88 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - April 2007 87 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - May 2016 85 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - July 2010 88 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #181 - February 2009 85-87 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - April 2007 90 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - January 2009 16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2007 87 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2009 86-88 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2008 88 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2016</p>



- Scores/Awards** **85-88 points** - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2007
88 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2009
89 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2007
15 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2010
15.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - March 2009
15 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - June 2009
- Reviews** *"Firm and silky, with berry, currant, and cherry character. Medium-bodied, with a clean finish. Best after 2010."*
 - JM, Wine Spectator
- "Very attractive mineral, berry and violet character that follows through to a medium- to full-bodied palate, with firm tannins and a medium finish. A little hollow on the midpalate, but very pleasing."*
 - JM, Wine Spectator
- "Tasted at Bordeaux Index's annual 10-Year On tasting in London. The 2006 Château Potensac has a conservative bouquet, yet one that is nicely detailed with cedar-infused red berry fruit that has a pleasing brightness. The palate is medium-bodied with quite firm tannin, well-judged acidity and yet it would have benefit from more flesh towards the finish, which tapers in slightly. Tasted January 2016."*
 - NM, Wine Advocate
- "Tasted blind at Southwold -06 Bordeaux tasting. The Potensac -06 has a ripe, but rather forced bouquet with notes of blackberry, fresh date, and almost honey-like aromas (gone is that salty tang.) The palate has a ripe entry with -furry- tannins, rigid and linear, hints of white pepper on the finish where the acidity is a little raw and domineering. Perhaps this will improve with further ageing? Tasted January 2010."*
 - NM, Wine Advocate
- "One of the most consistently impressive estates in the northern Medoc, Potensac's 2006 (made by the same winemaking team that produces the great Leoville Las Cases) reveals a deep ruby hue, notes of sweet cherries, roasted herbs, licorice, and gamy meat, and good fruit, structure, purity, and freshness. It can be drunk now as well as over the next 7-10 years. Good value."*
 - RP, Wine Advocate
- "A rather muted, pinched nose with faint blackberry and a touch of sea-salt. The palate displays good definition, but it seems rather subdued compared to previous vintages. Well-integrated new oak, so signs of any rot with note of ripe blackberry, Morello, and a touch of white pepper. Restrained finish that lacks some depth and persistency. Good but not great, which Potensac can be. Tasted April 2007."*
 - NM, Wine Advocate
- "This is an impressively complete wine, the fruit right in context with the dark, dry tannins. All the elements are in place, from the initial juicy fruit to the soft, fresh close. This is an impressively complete wine, the fruit right in context with the dark, dry tannins. All the elements are in place, from the initial juicy fruit to the soft, fresh close."*
 - RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Pale ruby. Light, quite interesting mineral notes on the nose. Hint of gym shoe, but all well balanced already. It's not going to go anywhere, but there's nothing out of place for now. Drink now."*
 - JA, Decanter.com
- "Pretty dark crimson. Dense, woodsmoke nose then very sweet fruit hits the palate - pretty impressive in the context of other AC Médoc's. Slightly supple with reasonable, if slightly inky, fruit intensity. Very competent though not thrilling and not really a vintage you have to have of Potensac."*
 - JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Medium red-ruby. Currant, mocha, tobacco, cedar, menthol, and a whiff of smoky game on the expressive nose. Supple and broad, combining good volume for the vintage with rather cool flavors of black cherry, menthol and roasted herbs. This spreads out nicely on the back end, with the substantial but ripe tannins dusting the incisors."*
 - ST, International Wine Cellar

Reviews *“Medium red. Currant, tobacco and a rocky minerality on the nose. Supple on entry, then tight in the middle, with modest sweetness but a savory character and good vinosity. Finishes with a firm tannic spine. Cellarmaster Bruno Rolland compared this young wine to the 1998.”*
- ST, International Wine Cellar

“Classic in style, tannic in manner and with a core of dark, red, and black fruits, cedar and tobacco, the wine is four-square with its firm, tannic, hard profile. Still quite tannic, you are going to need to lay this down several more years before consumption.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Ripe and easy, the nose has a fleshy mix of bramble and raspberry. Although not that complex it will, with a little time, make an enjoyable mouthful of supple fruit.”
- Derek Smedley MW

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections. On the nose there is fine plum fruit, some cherries, fine wood spice, still restrained. Juicy red berry fruit on the palate, firm tannins, underlined with delicate strawberry fruit, good harmony, has aging potential.”
- Falstaff Magazine
