

Chateau Du Tertre 2021

CSPC# 866169

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Margaux
Classification	Fifth Growth. Cinquieme Grand Cru Classe in 1855.
Website	https://www.chateaudutertre.fr/
Sustainability	The Château has a CSR charter, is certified High Environmental Value level 3 and practices biodynamics.
General Info	<p>5th growth classified in 1855. Château du Tertre's history goes all the way back to the 17th century. Whilst the old Médoc Seigneuries were in the hands of the Bordeaux nobility and became top wine estates, Du Tertre left the Arsac Seigneury and in 1724 was purchased by Pierre Mitchell, an Irishman, who was the leading bottle manufacturer of the Bordeaux region. During the course of the 19th century, under the control of ingenious owners such as Henry de Vallande or Baron Henri de Koenigswater, the wines of the estate gained world renown, culminating in their inclusion in the 1855 Médoc classification. Down a path, just past the village church, the remarkable outlines of Tertre's gravel outcrops come into full view. These were described by 19th century writers as « the lovely Tertre (hill) of Arsac ». The Margaux soils reach their highest point here, and it is one of the highest gravel outcrops of the Médoc area. Today, Château du Tertre is indebted to the Albada Jelgersma family for having rediscovered its aristocratic pedigree. Since 1997, Château du Tertre's destiny has been in the hands of Eric Albada Jelgersma, a Dutch businessman, who has long been a keen Francophile, a great art lover and a passionate admirer of the Médoc. Eager to get the very best out of his outstanding soils, which are exceptionally homogeneous and recognised as having some of the highest potential in the Margaux appellation, Eric Albada Jelgersma now sees his team rewarded for their efforts. Though having modernised the estate, Eric Albada Jelgersma has managed to maintain traditional methods while taking advantage of the latest innovations, making the wines of Château du Tertre superbly powerful and elegant with excellent ageing potential.</p> <p>Château du Tertre announced new owners as of January 2021, with the Helfrich family of Grands Chais de France taking over from previous owners Albada Jelgersma family on a leasing and management basis.</p>
Winemaker	<p>Menahem Israilevich. Technical Director: Frédéric Ardouin Cellar Master: David Fennelly. Consulting oenologist: Eric Boissenot</p>
Vintage	The winter of 2021 was relatively mild, although quite wet, with more than 230 mm of rain falling in the first two months of the year. With the month of March being drier and warmer, our vines flowered between the 23rd and the 30th of the month. Spring was marked by frequent and severe episodes of frost, testing the frost protection sprinkling systems on our white grape vineyards like never before. Temperatures fell so drastically that we lost close to a hectare's worth of our white harvest. On the other hand, our red grape vineyards were less affected by the cold, with only a few vines hit by some morning frost.
Vineyards	The du Tertre vineyards are remarkable for being in a single, coherent block adjacent to the <i>château</i> , covering 52 hectares of the aforementioned plateau in Arsac. This is a gravelly, pebbly mound typical of the region, planted with 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. The vines average about 35 years of age, with many dating from the 1950s and 1960s, the average age brought down by the planting of 4 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon and a little Merlot in 1999.
Harvest	The 2021 Château du Tertre was picked from September 28 until October 12
Vinification/ Maturation	Manual and optical sorting Wood, concrete, and stainless-steel tanks Maceration 21 days at 24 degrees French oak barrels 40% new wood Duration of aging 12 months in barrels.



Tasting Notes	The 2021 Chateau Du Tertre Margaux, with its vibrant mix of black raspberries, mint, flowers, and spice, is crafted to age gracefully over 25 years with proper storage. There are plenty of savory flavors imbedded in this beautifully crafted wine along with layers of earthy, mineral laced accents that contribute to its long finish. The palate is a dynamic interplay of crisp, juicy sweetness and a dusting of cocoa, leading to an earthy yet polished finish. You continue to experience the wine for a period of time after each sip, which only adds to its desirability. A meticulously composed blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot, and 6% Petit Verdot, it's a wine with a future as bright as its present.
Serve with	Chateau du Tertre is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau du Tertre is a perfect match with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta as well as cheese.
Production	4,840 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2025-2037
Scores/Awards	<p>89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2024</p> <p>91 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024</p> <p>90-93 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>89-91+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p>16.5 points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com (score only) - May 2022</p> <p>93 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Inside Bordeaux - May 2022</p> <p>91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p>91 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>90-92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>90-92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>89-91 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022</p> <p>15.5 points - Matthew Jukes - August 2022</p> <p>91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>90 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022</p> <p>94-95 points - Vert de Vin - July 2022</p> <p>93 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Packs a red currant and bitter cherry compote core dotted with hints of sweet bay leaf and tobacco, while pepper and potpourri hints line the finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2030. 4,840 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2021 du Tertre has turned out well in bottle, offering up aromas of dark, minty berries, pipe tobacco, orange zest and pencil shavings, followed by a medium-bodied, supple, and suave palate built around velvety tannins and bright acids. This Cabernet-dominant blend represents a strong effort for this property, no doubt helped by the brave decision to sell off one-third of the production in bulk."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2021 du Tertre is a very pretty, elegant wine, bursting with aromas of wild berries, exotic spices, cigar box and loamy soil. Medium to full-bodied, ample, and seamless, it's velvety and enveloping, with bright acids, beautifully refined tannins, and a mouthwatering finish. Occupying the highest point in the Margaux appellation (a lofty 25 meters), Château du Tertre in fact encompasses not one "tertre" (high point) but two, possessing both a 30-hectare block on fine gravels situated around the château itself and another 20-hectare block, separated only by a stream, on the plateau of Bel-Air where the gravels are sandier. Both are comparatively homogeneous, and both inform the grand vin; and both are comparatively warm, well-draining terroirs, meaning that the vegetative cycle at du Tertre is quite advanced, and that even if the team here don't precipitate to harvest, this certainly isn't a late-ripening site. In the aftermath of the devastating 1956 frost, the Gasqueton family replanted the entire vineyard (as at Calon-Ségur) at the rather low density of 6,300 vines per hectare, with one-third Cabernet Sauvignon, one-third Cabernet Franc, and one-third Merlot—an idiosyncratic encépagement for Margaux and one that tended to deliver somewhat lighter, leaner wines in years where the Cabernet Franc didn't fully ripen. In 1997, the Gasquetons sold to the Albada family, who began by restoring the estate's much-neglected buildings and proceeded, from 2008, to restructure the vineyards. Chemical herbicides were banished, and extensive replanting began, increasing density to 9,100 vines per hectare, and adapting grape varieties to soil type. With du Tertre's sale in</i></p>

Reviews *early 2020, restructuring continues. Only 30% of the vineyard remains to be replanted, a project that's projected to conclude in 2027. All these new plantings have been farmed biodynamically from their inception, and while du Tertre retains some old-vine Merlot and Cabernet Franc, from which a massale selection is being propagated, the proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon has increased and Petit Verdot, which works well on the lower parts of the slope, represents around 10%. Winemaking is quite classical, with harvesting by hand, optical sorting, and vinification in a mix of wooden, cement and stainless-steel vats. Technical director Frédéric Ardouin, who conducted du Tertre's soil studies as a student in 2008, is at the helm of the winery, and Cynthia Capelaere is the new estate director. The style of wines produced here is quite singular: on the one hand distinctly elegant and fine-boned, but on the other displaying a certain generosity and sweetness of fruit (consistent with a well-exposed, well-drained, rather early-ripening site). The rather light style of yesteryear has been replaced by sneaky intensity of flavor and persistence. What's more, if du Tertre is operating in a similar stylistic register to some of the appellation's other champions of elegance, such as Brane Cantenac and Rauzan Ségla, its wines are also rather more immediate, with a youthful charm and seamlessness that means that even a classically styled vintage such as 2016 can already be drunk and not merely tasted. These are not the sort of wines that dominate in a mass tasting of more than 100 wines, but they are just the sort of wines that readers looking for harmonious, charming Margaux might want to have in their cellar."*

- WK, Wine Advocate

"The 2021 du Tertre is a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot, and 6% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, it springs with vibrant blackcurrants, Morello cherries, and ripe raspberries scents, followed by hints of fertile loam, pencil shavings, and iron ore with a waft of wild thyme. Light to medium-bodied, the palate is elegantly crafted and refreshing with plenty of savory and earthy layers and a well-sustained, mineral-laced finish."

- LPB, Wine Independent

"A juicy and soft textured, medium-bodied red with cherry, earth, and orange-peel character. Creamy and delicious. 64% cabernet sauvignon, 20% cabernet franc, 10% merlot and 6% petit verdot."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Green pepper, toasted wood and clove aromas with blackcurrant and violet aromas. This has a lovely weight and texture on the palate, a gentle sucrosity and succulence with mouthwatering acidity giving life to the ripe black fruits alongside cocoa powder, tobacco, and typical Cabernet markers on the finish. Super charming, still with tension and direction - also with the spiced elements to the fore - but there is good persistence and a sense of contained power with very appealing minty touches. Well balanced and presented. Tasted twice."

- GH, Decanter.com

"Fresh, vibrant, savory, black raspberries, currants, espresso, and mint aromas pop in the nose. The palate is medium-bodied, energetic, and bright, with a core of cedar, herbs, and spicy currants, with an underpinning of cocoa that blends together and lingers. Drink from 2025-2045."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Leafy black raspberries, mint, flowers, and spice are what you initially notice. On the palate, the wine is fresh, crisp, juicy, sweet, and bright, with a core of chewy red currants, touches of cocoa and spice on the palate and in the, dusty, earthy, yet elegant finish. 13% ABV. Give this just a bit of time to soften and flesh out. Drink from 2024-2039."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2021 Château du Tertre was picked from September 28 until October 12 and aged in 50% new oak. It is quite bold on the nose, offering expressive blackberry, mint and cedar scents, almost Pauillac-like in style. Affording it a few minutes in the glass, it seems to gather momentum. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins, concentrated black fruit, a little graphite toward the finish courtesy of the Cabernet Sauvignon, and quite a spicy aftertaste. This is a commendable 2021 that should age with style."

- NM, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2021 du Tertre is a big, powerful wine. A blast of dark cherry, plum, spice, chocolate tobacco, licorice and incense give the 2021 its flamboyant personality. The 2021 is a dense, powerful du Tertre. It will be interesting to see how the 2021 comes together. It is certainly promising.”*

- AG, Vinous

“The 2021 Château du Tertre showed well, and I certainly wouldn't be surprised to see it end up being an outstanding wine. With solid ripeness in its blue fruits, flowers, violets, and spicy aromas and flavors, it's medium-bodied, has a round, supple, plump mouthfeel, and a good finish.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“A little blunt and solid, there is plenty of energy and impact here, but it seems to lack polish. No doubt the tannins will relax fairly swiftly and then a hearty, non-nonsense wine will emerge.”

- Matthew Jukes

“Strong ruby core, purple reflections, subtle brightening on the rim. Delicate herbal savouriness and tobacco nuances supported with dark cherries. Medium body, ripe plums, subtle tannins, dark nougat on the finish.”

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is fresh and reveals some crispness and power. There are notes of fresh/crisp blackcurrant, wild currant and slightly fresh lily combined with hints of ripe black fruit as well as fine Cuban pepper and a discreet varietal quality. The palate is fruity and balanced, revealing acidity, minerality, good definition and juiciness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of tart/pulpy blackcurrant, tart/pulpy raspberry and more lightly crunchy redcurrant combined with touches of fresh lily, peony, and a subtle hint of chocolate (in the background). A lot of energy.”

- Vert de Vin
