

Château Lascombes 2010

CSPC# 749576

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Margaux
Classification	2 nd Grand Cru Classe
Website	https://www.chateau-lascombes.com/en/home/
General Info	Chateau Lascombes was classified second growth of Margaux in the 1855 classification. It bears its name of its first owner, Chevalier Antoine de Lascombes, born in 1625. The existing chateau was built in 1867 after its acquisition by barrister Chaix d'Est Ange. Alexis Lichine took over the property in 1952. He completely restructured Château Lascombes and renovated the vineyard and cellars. In 1971, he sold everything to the English brewer Bass-Charrington. In April 2001, Chateau Lascombes was bought by Colony Capital who undertook important restructuring works, significantly reduced the yields, and introduced vats made of french oak.
Winemaker	Michel Rolland – wine consultant; Rene Vanatelle - winemaker
Vineyards	Comprised of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 50% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot
Harvest	Grapes are entirely hand picked in ten-kilo crates. Yield 43 hl/ha. 83% of the yield went into the Grand Vin. Harvested from Thursday September 30 – Wednesday October 20, 2010
Maturation	Maceration time 37 days. 4 months ageing on the lees. 90% new barrels for 18 months
Tasting Notes	Intense crimson. Nose of fresh ripe red fruit with refined oak. Tightly-wound, refined stuffing, robust attack. Powerful, warm style with slightly firm tannins. A robust 2010 showing elegant austerity.
Serve with	Chateau Lascombes is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Also great with appetizers, Roasted lamb, braised veal, rib of beef with bones and pan-seared mushrooms; Hard cheese, such as tommes or gouda.
Cellaring	Drink 2012-2027
Scores/Awards	91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2013 89-92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011 96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013 94-97 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - May 2011 Review only - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011 94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2013 91-92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2011 92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 1, 2013 90-92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 25, 2011 88-91 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2011 17.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2011 17.5 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2011 94+ points - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2012 90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) 92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2011 (score only) 92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 13, 2013 90-93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 20, 2011 87-91 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2011 15.5+ points - Farr Vintner - April 2011 17 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
Reviews	<i>"Dark and nicely toasty, with ample espresso and ganache up front, followed by steeped fig, blackberry and black currant fruit that rumbles through the finish. Features ample tarry grip but eschews minerality and finesse for a direct and toast-driven approach. Best from 2014 through 2026."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator



Reviews *"Slightly jammy, with a ripe, forward profile of plum, prune, blackberry and black cherry backed by an ample dose of dark licorice on the slightly raisiny finish. Score range: 89-92."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

"The wine hits all cylinders in 2010. The average alcohol for the bottled wine is 14%. It has a gorgeously sweet nose of creme de cassis, spring flowers, subtle barbecue smoke and charcoal followed by full body, beautiful intensity, great purity, stature, and length. The influence of any oak is minimal, despite the fact that 90% new French oak was used. Needless to say, this is an example of modern-styled winemaking at its finest, and arguments that such wines will not age well, do not represent their terroir, and are soul-less, are totally groundless. Give it 5 or so years of cellaring and drink it over the following 25-30 years. This is one of the great Margaux wines of the vintage."

Probably the greatest Lascombes made to date, the 2010 is a blend of 55% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Petit Verdot. The production from this huge estate totals nearly 400,000 bottles."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"While this large property is composed of a huge number of small parcels that must require military-like precision to harvest, the quality of the wines over the last decade has been remarkable. The 2010 may turn out to be the greatest Lascombes ever made. It boasts a dense purple color along with an extraordinarily uplifted set of aromatics consisting of blueberry liqueur, black cherries, subtle smoke, crushed rocks, and restrained oak. Massive fruit, an unctuous texture, a skyscraper-like mid-palate and stunning definition (because of good acids and a modest pH) have resulted in a formidable wine that will benefit from 5-6 years of cellaring and should keep for 30 years. A brilliant effort!"

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted twice, the Lascombes is a blend of 45% Merlot, 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Petit Verdot. The first sample has a very ripe bouquet with creme de cassis and plum-scented fruit, flirting with over-ripeness. The palate is medium-bodied with rather low acidity and a very smudged and a little hard on the finish. A second sample is consistent, and I will endeavor to taste this at a later juncture. Tasted April 2011."

- NM, Wine Journal

"What a wonderful nose of ripe strawberries and hints of vanilla. Full body with soft and velvety tannins and a long, long finish. This is luscious and sexy. Try in 2017."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Impressive start with lots of polished and silky tannins here, and an enticing depth of fruit and a caressing finish."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Another extremely dark blackish crimson Margaux. Lifted nose and very sweet and sumptuous. Extremely caressing in terms of texture. Wine as massage. But with lots of tannins hidden in there underneath. So much pleasure in store... Though pretty alcoholic! 17.5 out of 20."

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Wood-driven tannins dominate at this stage, creating a wine that is structured and dense. The tannins are layered with the weight of the black currant and plum fruits. Lascombes is still finding its style but is definitely on the upward slope."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"90-92 Rich wine, its smooth structure going with the ripe berry fruits. It lacks some definition, but all the components are there to be integrated."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Very deep, almost inky ruby. Perfumed aromas of red cherry, dark plum, flowers and cedar, plus a whiff of menthol. Juicy, sweet, and nicely deep, with red cherry, blackberry and underbrush flavors carrying through to the long finish. The wine's tannins are firm but polished, and its bright, harmonious acids leave an impression of freshness and refinement that I don't always associate with Lascombes."

- ST, International Wine Cellar

Reviews *“Very well extracted ripe fruit, shows the ripeness and structure of 2010 and fine ripe tannins for the future. Drink 2017-30.”*

- SS, Decanter.com

“Dark, silky, damson and cassis nose, again the texture is very silky, with some sweet new oak coming into the mid palate, ever so slightly drying, but forgivable. Gourmet in style, more like a 2009 voluptuous wine than the cerebral 2010s. Good, I like the chocolate dash on the finish. 93+/100. Drink 2018-2035.”

- JA, The New Bordeaux

“Espresso bean, coffee, licorice, chocolate and jammy blackberries create the aromatics. On the palate, the wine is lush, opulent, and rich, there is a touch of heat in the powerful, ripe, oaky finish.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Lascombes was one of the few estates in the Medoc to use more Merlot in their blend than they included in 2009. The wine is deep ruby with blue, purple accents. On the nose, violets, oak, cassis, and forest floor aromas are easy to find. Concentrated with ripe fruit, cassis, tannin and wood, this plush textured, tannic wine, finishes with chocolate, cassis, and coffee flavors. 90-93 Pts.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“It is very modern with rich fleshy fruit on the nose and sweet ripe black fruits filling out the palate. There are tannins in evidence surrounded by supple slightly jammy fruit. The oak is rather too obvious on both nose and back palate.”

- Derek Smedley MW

“There has been a total transformation in quality here recently. Modern, impressive wines are now being made here which are often criticised for not being very Margaux-like. Nevertheless, they are much better than the dreadful efforts produced at Lascombes under the former regime. This 2010 has an inky black colour and the fleshy black fruit is currently completely dominated by the rasping, raw new oak. Marmite on the nose, chewy and dense on the palate then woody dryness on the finish. Very un-knit right now and hard to judge.”

- Farr Vintners

“Aged 18 months in 50% new oak. Chateau Lascombes now utilizes an optical sorting table which eliminates any berry that is not entirely up to par. The seductive and complex nose offers a beautiful mix of violet, chocolate, allspice, cinnamon, and beautifully ripe blackberry. Delicious blackberry and boysenberry emerge on the round palate with a touch of vanilla. This silky-smooth wine will benefit from at least 5 years of aging and will age well for over 2 decades. Beautiful wine! Tasted three times (once at the Chateau).”

- AL, JJ Buckley Wines

“Perfumed aromas of blackberry, huckleberry, and plum mix with hints of forest floor, black truffle and a touch of espresso. Exceptionally soft and approachable, the lush palate shows broad, integrated tannins that lend structure to the purple fruit. Showing less acidity than many of its vintage peers, this is almost hedonistic in its youthful approachability. Give it a couple of years to settle down, and then enjoy over the next 20”

- AS, JJ Buckley Wines