

Château Lascombes 2018

CSPC# 872872

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	50% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Margaux
Classification	2 nd Grand Cru Classe
Website	https://www.chateau-lascombes.com/en/home/
General Info	<p>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, reduced significantly the yields and introduced vats made of French oak. Combining power and elegance, smoothness and tannins, Château Lascombes is a wine of great complexity. In its youth, its depth of colour never fails to impress. Finesse and softness on the palate are complemented by stylish, fine-grained tannins. Château Lascombes should be enjoyed as it ages over the years to enable full appreciation of its aromatic complexity and the development of its ever-more suave structure in bottle.</p>
Winemaker	Michel Rolland – wine consultant; Rene Vanatelle - winemaker
Vintage	<p>2018 is a vintage that will certainly mark the spirits ... On the one hand because it was very difficult to born. A humid spring and an exceptional pressure of fungal diseases were followed by a summer with extreme sunshine conditions. Certain areas of the Margaux appellation and more generally the South of the Médoc were favored by a few thunderstorms during the summer which allowed to reduce the impact of the water stress.</p> <p>The musts with complicated fermentation potentials (high degrees, malic acid in low concentration) ended up keeping the technical teams under pressure until the end of the winemaking process. In addition, the quality of the wines produced has a character and a quite remarkable sweetness. From the first days of vinification, the vats perfumed the cellars with a generous and intense fragrance, letting the musts with a juicy and round characters. At the end of the maceration, our feelings were confirmed when the tastings revealed powerful and concentrated wines. The levels of acidity remained moderate despite their high levels. This acidity allowed the wines to keep a surprising freshness.</p>
Vineyards	Comprised of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 50% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, anchored predominantly on gravel, clay and sandy soils.
Harvest	Grapes are entirely hand picked in ten-kilo crates. Yield 45 hl/ha.
Maturation	4 months ageing on the lees. The wine is vinified in a combination of wood and stainless-steel vats and then aged in 70% new barrels for 18 months
Tasting Notes	<p>Château Lascombes 2018 is dressed in a superb deep purple colour with ruby tints. If it seems shy at first glance, it opens quickly after a few shakes of the glass, giving rise to a complex bouquet of cooked and jammy black berries rolled up in tertiary notes of laurel and forest floor.</p> <p>On the palate, Château Lascombes 2018 offers a rich and ample attack. The juicy black fruit aromas emerge in the middle palate and are enhanced by a solid structure, bursting with abundant and granular tannins. The deliciously fruity finish lasts for long seconds.</p>
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.



Production 29,000 cases made
Drink Drink 2023-2036
Scores/Awards **93 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2021
93-96 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2019
93+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2021
92-94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019
95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2021
94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2019
94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2021
93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2019
92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2019
92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021
91-93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019
90-92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - November 2019
90-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2019
94+ points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2021
91-93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2019
92 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - September 2021
94 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - February 2021
94-95 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020
16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022
17.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021

Reviews *"A bright juniper note leads off, followed quickly by a mix of warmed cassis, steeped plum, and blackberry compote flavors. Silky and fine-grained in feel from start to finish, with a late flurry of singed wood, savory, and dark tea details on the finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Petit Verdot. Best from 2023 through 2036. 29,000 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Dark and winey, with steeped currant and plum fruit forming the core, inlaid with a licorice root note, and backed by a suave mesquite hint on the finish. Fine-grained. A serious wine. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Petit Verdot."
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2018 Lascombes is deep garnet-purple in color, slowly unfurling in the glass to reveal evocative cassis, black cherries, and blackberry pie scents, followed by hints of pencil lead, menthol, lavender, and cedar chest with a touch of damp soil. The medium to full-bodied palate gives a great core of muscular black fruits, framed by firm, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and savory."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"The 2018 Lascombes is deep garnet-purple in color and a little reduced to begin, offering tar and scorched earth notions over an emerging core of baked blackcurrants, plum preserves, and charcuterie plus hints of bay leaves and underbrush. Full, richly fruited, and laden with ripe black fruits and earthy suggestions, it has a solid foundation of firm, grainy tannins and finishes long and savory."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"Complex nose, blending notes of elderberries, black cherries, spices, cedar, and violets. It's full-bodied and structured with elegant tannins and a fleshy texture. Flavorful, savory finish. Try after 2024 [till 2045+]."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This is a dense and very structured young red with currant and citrus character, such as burnt orange. Full-bodied with chewy yet polished tannins and a long and flavorful finish."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This large estate to the north of Margaux village is performing well. There is still a tendency to overuse wood aging, but powerful black fruits will provide balance as the wine ages. With its structure and dark tannins, this wine has a long-term perspective. Drink from 2027."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

- Reviews** *"This is a smoky, powerful wine that shows plenty of signs of wood aging. However, it is restrained by the fine berry fruit flavors and the intensity of the tannins. It will age well."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "For me, Lascombes always manages to get away with its exuberance and powerful push because it combines this with floral aromatics and a sense of unashamed enjoyment. It has more of an oak finesse than some, as you may expect, and it's not quite as juicy as the 2015 and 2016 but it settles into the glass and shows layers of complexity, a big punch of fruit and clear ambition. Good yields of 45hl/ha. 40% new oak."*
- JA, Decanter.com
- "With a smoke-filled nose of plum, espresso, licorice, cigar box and roasted dark red fruits, the wine is round, lush, and full-bodied with espresso and dark chocolate that rise along with all the ripe, dark red berries in the finish. It is going to take time for the oak to integrate, therefore, you will need to be either oak tolerant or very patient with this one."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Round, forward, ripe, and lush with real fatness to the fruits, this wine is concentrated, and full-bodied with plenty of smoke, licorice, and espresso to accompany all that black fruit. It is going to take time for the oak to integrate therefore you will need to be either oak tolerant or very patient with this one."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "The 2018 Lascombes has a ripe bouquet (as usual), though not too over-the-top given the growing season. It does miss the delineation and finesse of other Margaux crus, however. The palate is medium-bodied with sharp tannins and good acidity, but the fruit feels smudged and slightly baked toward the finish. Not bad by a long shot, but I wish it showed more finesse and nuance."*
- NM, Vinous
- "The 2018 Lascombes is quite attractive in this vintage. Black cherry, plum, cloves, leather, tobacco, and licorice all run through a succulent, supple Margaux that will drink well with minimal cellaring. This is an especially modern, fruit-forward style. Tasted two times."*
- AG, Vinous
- "The 2018 Château Lascombes performed brilliantly in my tastings. It's a rich, medium to full-bodied, impressively textured Margaux with loads to love. Lots of jammy currants, blueberries, vanilla bean, flowers, and camphor emerge from the glass, and it has ripe yet present tannins, no hard edges, and just a balanced, classy style. It needs 3-4 years to integrate its oak and will keep for 25 years or more. The blend is 50% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 5% Petit Verdot that was brought up in 60% new French oak." Jeb Dunnuck, 2018 Bordeaux from The Bottle (3/11/2021)."*
- Jeb Dunnuck
- "The 2018 Château Lascombes showed nicely, possessing plenty of richness as well as a light, elegant, weightless profile. Classy notes of black and blue fruits, smoked earth, and ample minerality all give way to a medium to full-bodied Margaux that's not a heavyweight yet shines for its balance and purity. It's going to fill out nicely with 3-5 years of cellaring."*
- Jeb Dunnuck
- "Very dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate edge lightening. Hints of roasted aromas and nougat caramel, underlaid with black wild berry confit, delicately reminiscent of liquorice, candied orange zest. Complex, juicy, black cherries, ripe tannins, touch of chocolate on the finish, underscored by minerals, a powerful, spicy accompaniment to food. (2025-2045)."*
- PM, Falstaff Magazine

Reviews *“The nose is elegant, aromatic and offers richness (full of control), freshness, a beautiful definition as well as a racy power and delicacy. It reveals notes of pulpy blackberry, creamy raspberry and small notes of fleshy blueberry associated with touches of small fresh/ripe red fruits, lily as well as subtle hints of bourbon vanilla pod, liquorice, coffee/roasted, discreet hints of caramelization, toasted hazelnut, and an imperceptible hint of pepper. The palate is beautifully fresh, elegant, beautifully built, elegant, precise, racy, full of control and offers gourmandize, fullness, suavity, a beautiful freshness, an acidulous frame, a fine grain as well as concentration and a controlled power. On the palate this wine expresses notes of fleshy/juicy strawberry, juicy/fresh blackberry and small notes of pulpy blueberry associated with touches of fresh/juicy small red fruits as well as hints of violet, liquorice, caramelization, camphor, a discreet hint of cardamom, chocolate, a subtle hint of pepper (in the background) and lily/varietaal (brings a hint of freshness). Tannins are elegant, precise, and well-built. Good length.”*

- Vert de Vin
