

Château Malescot St. Exupéry 2006

CSPC# 765471

750mlx6

13.5% Alc./Vol.

Grape Variety

65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Margaux

Website

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

General Info

The estate already produced wine in 1608. In 1697 it was sold by Louise Simon Ecoisses Malescot, consul of King Louis XIV at the Parliament of Bordeaux. He gave his name to the property, and his descendants took good care of Malescot and added a large dwelling house and numerous outbuildings, but after the revolution, the property was divided several times between different descendants and sold to different buyers before becoming the property of Count Jean-Baptiste Saint-Exupéry in 1827 who added his name to that of Malescot.

In 1855 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry was ranked third grand cru before being sold to a banker from Bordeaux named Fourcade, who renovated the winery and enlarged the vineyard. The chateau passed again through the hands of various owners including Mr. Boissac who built the current castle in 1885 but sold it again in 1901. Many owners succeeded again, and the estate slowly declined until, on 1st June 1955, Paul and Roger Zuger bought it with only seven hectares of vines left. After nearly 30 years of sustained efforts and attention, the blason of Malescot regained its rank and its desire to go ever higher. Today, the son of Roger, Jean-Luc Zuger, is at the head of the estate that was extended to 23.5 hectares, and he continues the work begun by his grandfather and his father.

3ème cru classé Margaux

Vineyards

28 hectares of which 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. Soil gravel overlaying chalk or marl which slopes towards the Gironde. Fruit picked into trays to prevent crushing.

Vinification/ Maturation

Temperature controlled and matured in 100% new oak and undergoes malolactic in barrel depending on the vintage. Aged on lees with stirring. 13-14 months barrel ageing before being racked without fining or filtration.

Tasting Notes

Very fine nose of roses and violets. Regal, creamy dark middle. Nice tannins, good long finish. Super wine.

Cellaring

Drink 2012-2024

Scores/Awards

92 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - June 30, 2009
92-94 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2007
91+ points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #181 - February 2009
92-94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #170 - April 2007
89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2010
86-88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - April 2007
92-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2007
92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2009
90 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2009
90-92 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2008
87 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2007
17 points - Decanter.com - February 18, 2010
90 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 17, 2012
91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - July 14, 2011
15.5 points - Farr Vintner - March 2007
16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
89 points - Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine (score only)
16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)
1 star - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2010
90-92 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only)



Reviews

“Complex aromas of truffle, blackberry and flowers follow through to a full body, with super silky tannins and a long, polished, caressing finish. Super refined and pretty. Needs plenty of time in the bottle to come around. Best after 2015.”

- JS, Wine Spectator

“Lots of blackberry and spice character, with chocolate undertones. Full-bodied, with lovely fine tannins and a long finish. A textbook claret, with refinement yet power. Love the touch of sweet fruit on the end. Almost Burgundian. Lovely and pretty. Score range: 92-94”

- JS, Wine Spectator

“While it is easy to lose sight of this wine, given the prodigious 2005 that was produced, this is another outstanding effort from an estate that has been doing everything right for some time. Notes of graphite, black currant liqueur, incense, and camphor make for a complex and intensely penetrating set of aromatics. Dark ruby/purple, medium to full-bodied, with superb concentration and moderate tannin, this is a beauty of finesse and substance that should be at its best between 2012 and 2024.”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“This property has made some brilliant wines in recent vintages, including a monumental 2005 and super-delicious 2004. Another stunning offering, the 2006 possesses sweet cherry and cassis notes intermixed with spring flowers, underbrush, and licorice. Medium-bodied and beautifully concentrated with soft acids as well as sweet tannin, the overall impression is one of opulence and plushness, atypical characteristics for a 2006. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2025.”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“Tasted blind at Southwold '06 Bordeaux tasting. This has a forceful, fruit-driven bouquet with plum and cassis to the fore, a bouquet that has turned volte-face since its austere showing in barrel. The palate is medium bodied with succulent tannins, good weight here, vibrant acidity and cohesion. Peppery black fruits, a little austerity on the finish but good length. This surpasses my expectations. Tasted January 2010.”

- NM, Wine Journal

“Tasted at the UGC. A very austere, conservative nose that lacks some fruit concentration, with dominant notes of green pepper and decaying leaves. The palate is better, perhaps a little blowsy with notes of blackberry, blueberry and cedar with coarse, rather astringent tannins. Dry finish. I expected a little more to be truthful. Tasted April 2007.”

- NM, Wine Journal

“Lots of blackberry and spice character, with chocolate undertones. Full-bodied, with lovely fine tannins and a long finish. A textbook claret, with refinement yet power. Love the touch of sweet fruit on the end. Almost Burgundian. Lovely and pretty.”

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“Finely structured, this has become an impressive wine, gaining in intensity as it develops. The tannins are powerful but come from concentrated fruit as much as from wood. It is becoming a powerhouse of ripe flavors. This is a wine that shows how Malescot St-Exupéry is joining the top ranks in Margaux.”

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“Full red-ruby. Musky aromas of currant, graphite, tobacco leaf, menthol, herbs and smoke are sexed up by a captivating candied quality. Densely packed and chewy but suave, with good peppery, herbal lift to the very ripe dark berry and mineral flavors. Not the ripest vintage ever for this wine, but that's not a bad thing as there's real energy to go with the broad texture.”

- ST, International Wine Cellar

“Good red-ruby. Bright, sexy aromas of sweet cherry, licorice, minerals and smoky oak. Juicy, sweet and energetic, with subtle, tightly wound flavors of raspberry, mulberry and minerals. This has the nerve that the 2007 does not yet show. Wonderfully vibrant wine with a firm tannic spine and excellent length.”

- ST, International Wine Cellar

Reviews *“Relatively light crimson with a pale rim. Warm and toasty - sweet and easy. Slightly chocolatey - could this be Cantenac Brown? [No!] Easy peasy without being desperately refreshing or exciting. Very competent drink though.”*

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Blackcurrant, spicy, earthy, classic. Lots of flavour, fine tannin, smooth, classic style. Drink from 2012. Deep colour, lots of ripe, smoothly extracted fruit and has completely avoided the rawness in some wines, rich, plummy, good length, ripeness and potential complexity. 2012-20.”

- Decanter.com

“Smoke, tobacco, cassis, cocoa and herbs with a sprig of mint created the perfume. With 4 hours of air, from time combined in the decanter and glass, the wine never lost that dry sensation from the tannins. The cassis filled finish will probably always be on the austere side of the style range for Malescot St. Exupery.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Earth, cassis, blackberry, spice, espresso bean and tobacco scents lead to a round Margaux wine. Still very young, this supple wine ends with fennel, black cherry, spice and cassis filled finish. Give this another 5 years and it should start showing well.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Another much-improved Margaux whose wines have impressed us over the last few years. Made from 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot. Modern style but it remains Margaux-like despite the impressive density. A smooth and velvety nose of ripe smoky fruit with hints of creamy chocolate and perfumed top notes is followed by a fine palate of sweet cherry fruit and bitter chocolate.”

- Farr Vintners
