

Château Malescot St. Exupéry 2014

CSPC# 753875

750mlx12

14.2% alc./vol.

CSPC# 790547

750mlx12

14.2% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Margaux

Classification

Third Growth. Troisieme Grand Cru Classe in 1855.

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 Chateau 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.

Vintage

2014 was marked by an extraordinary Indian summer that saved the vintage. Fine spring weather was conducive to a good start to the growing season. However, challenging summer conditions seriously slowed down ripening. Fortunately, the month of September was absolutely beautiful, with dry, extremely sunny weather accompanied by highs of close to 30°C. This superb weather, with cool night-time temperatures, enabled the grapes to ripen beautifully, and they were able to be brought into the vat house having reached a perfect level of ripeness.

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.

Harvest

picked between 9 and 20 October

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.

Cellaring

Drink 2017-2030

Production

8,100 cases made.

Scores/Awards

93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2017

92-95 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2015

94-96 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 29, 2015

96 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - February 2017

93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2015

91-93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2015

16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2015

17.25 (90+) points - Steven Spurrier, Decanter.com - June 2015

92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2015

90-92 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - March 2015

93 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2015

15+ points - Farr Vintner - March 2015

87-89 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2015



Scores/Awards **94 points** - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - March 2015

93+ points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2017

91-94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2015

17 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)

17.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)

18 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only)

16 points - Gault & Millau (score only)

Reviews *"Alluring, with lapsang souchong notes that weave around the core of gently steeped red and black currant and plum fruit flavors. A strong graphite edge marks the finish, giving this excellent cut and drive. Very suave. Best from 2020 through 2030. 8,100 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Bright and juicy, with a core of plum, blackberry and black cherry fruit, backed by hints of anise and fruitcake. The apple wood edge on the finish gives this spine. Very solid. Score range: 92-95"
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The Château Malescot St. Exupery 2014 has a modest nose at first but with aeration is unfurls to reveal raspberry coulis and crushed strawberry scents, floral aromas following soon after. The palate is medium bodied with a soft, supple entry. This is a fleshy Malescot with a fine seam of acidity and a lattice of lace-like tannin, the fruit turning darker towards the finish, but not quite delivering that knockout punch that you might have found in a more benevolent vintage. Still, this represents a fine Margaux that will be approachable in its youth."
- NM, Wine Advocate

"Dark currants and berries with walnuts on the nose. Follows through to a full body, integrated tannins, and a gorgeous finish. Exciting. Wow. Drink in 2020."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Very sexy and refined with blackberries and blueberries. Full-bodied with ultra-fine and integrated tannins."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"91-93. Barrel Sample. This is an attractive, already fruity wine. It has layers of fresh acidity that shoot through the firm, dry, tannic structure. The finish offers abundant fruit flavors and woody smokiness."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Mid purple. Interesting, savoury graphite nose. Then sweet elderberry fruit. Round and sweet with less obvious acidity than many of its peers. Some energy here. Should provide satisfying drinking - if the price is right. Drink 2023-2038"
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Excellent density of fruit that is slightly smoky and leathery. Always a very individual wine and what it lacks in Margaux charm is made up for in depth of flavour."
- SS, Decanter.com

"This fun ride of dark chocolate, cherry liqueur, fresh herbs and supple tannins is already fun to taste. Deep garnet in color with the fragrance of truffle, cocoa, boysenberry, and blossoms, it's smooth, soft, fleshy and round. The wine was produced from a blend of 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot and reached 14.2% alcohol with a pH of 3.82. 92-94 Pts"
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"2014 Deep and saturated colour; legs; very ripe notes to the aromatics; some chalk; some fig tones; some spice and fruit cake notes; lots of depth and matter on the palate; substantial; creamy black fruits and some perfume here; freshness on the palate and some grip; lots of extract, matter and length. [58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot]. Drink 2020-2030. Tasted 31 March 2015 at UGC. 90-92"
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

Reviews *“Continuing an impressive vein of form at this château, the 2014 is stylish and well upholstered, with higher alcohol than some of its neighbours, but no lack of supporting structure and black and red fruit weight. Well balanced and refreshing on the finish with the concentration to age.”*
- TA, timatkin.com

“This is a Margaux property that has beefed up its wines in recent years. Michel Rolland consults here. 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 8% Petit Verdot in 60% new oak. Sometimes this is not very Margaux-like, but always impressive. 58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot in the 2014 blend. Deep inky colour. Toasty oak and rich black fruit on the nose. Plush, round, and thick on the palate. Impressive and concentrated with lots of mouth filling extracted tannins on the finish. A very modern and worked style.”
- Farr Vintners

“The nose is firm the start of the palate fresh and tight. A touch of sweetness in the middle some ripe black fruits give richness but at the back the acidity it is fresh and firm and quite tight on the finish. 2026-37”
- Derek Smedley MW

“Beautifully composed, elegant and quite pure with freshness and lifted red berry fruits. There is good concentration here in this modern-style Margaux with sweet, focused, intense flavors and a fairly long finish.”
- JCL, asianpalate.com

“The 2014 Malescot Saint Exupéry is powerful, rich and explosive. One of the more exuberant, flamboyant Margaux that readers will come across, the Malescot exudes serious depth and intensity. Black cherry, plum, smoke, licorice, and dark spice meld into the deep, succulent finish. The 2014 needs time in bottle, but it is impressive and also highly promising.”
- AG, Vinous

“The 2014 Malescot Saint Exupéry is deep, fleshy and very nicely textured in the glass. Smoke, tobacco, incense, and new leather lead to a host of dark red/black-fleshed fruits in a supple, deeply expressive Margaux. Layers of fruit continue to build through to the creamy, inviting finish. Young and bursting at the seams with a real sense of unbridled power, the 2014 is likely to offer many years of fine drinking. This is a wine of pedigree and personality. Tasted twice.”
- AG, Vinous
