

## Château Malescot St. Exupéry 2018

CSPC# 753875

750mlx12

14.1% alc./vol.

CSPC# 848997

750mlx6

14.1% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot
<b>Appellation</b>	Margaux
<b>Classification</b>	Third Growth. Troisieme Grand Cru Classe in 1855.
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.malescot.com/">http://www.malescot.com/</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Jean-Luc Zuger
<b>Vintage</b>	<p>2018 Margaux is not as homogenous as the other top appellations in the Medoc. In part, of course it is due to the massive size and diversity of terroirs. Some of the soils there had the ability to cope with the extremely wet, winter months. Still, mildew attack was an issue. Properties with the ability to attack the spread of mildew quickly managed to avoid losing large portions of their harvest. In fact, several properties lost from 20% to almost 75% of their harvest.</p> <p>It was not only the wet winter and spring that was an issue. Growers here, as well as in all of the Left Bank needed enough water to survive the warm, sunny and parched summer months.</p> <p>The date of the harvest was one of the crucial factors with 2018 Margaux. Some estates began picking their young vines as early as September 12. Harvesting finished as late as October 15. This long window of picking allowed many properties to obtain the desired level of ripeness they were looking for.</p> <p>Styles and characteristics in the Margaux appellation are usually reflective of the desire of the winery, and with 2018 Margaux, that holds true. With 2018 Margaux, all the wines are deeply colored. There are opulent, sensual wines, powerful, full-bodied, richly textured wines and some that are light, fresh and crisp. And of course, wine lovers will experience the elegance the Margaux appellation is best known for.</p>
<b>Vineyards</b>	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.
<b>Harvest</b>	The harvest took place September 19 to October 7.
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	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.



<b>Tasting Notes</b>	The Grand Cru Classe of Margaux, Chateau Malescot St Exupery is located on the left bank of Bordeaux. The Chateau expands over a 28-hectare vineyard spread over the most beautiful terroirs of the Margaux appellation, with soils of Pyrenean gravel. At the tasting, the Chateau Malescot Saint Exupéry 2018 presents an expressive aromatic bouquet, revealing slightly woody notes when stirred. Balanced and beautifully deep, the palate offers gourmet tannins and a silky texture, while maintaining a great freshness.
<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Malescot St. Exupery is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink now-2036
<b>Production</b>	9,183 cases made.
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>95 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - January 2021</p> <p><b>93-96 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - June 2019</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2021</p> <p><b>94-96+ points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2021</p> <p><b>97-98 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>92-94 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2019</p> <p><b>16 points</b> - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - March 2019</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - November 2020</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019</p> <p><b>15.5+ points</b> - Farr Vintner - April 2019</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - March 2021</p> <p><b>93-96 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2019</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - March 2021</p> <p><b>93-96 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2019</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2021</p> <p><b>94-96 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2019</p> <p><b>16.5+ points</b> - Matthew Jukes, MW - April 2019</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - February 2021</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - March 2019</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2019</p> <p><b>17.5 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2019</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Lovely, with gently mulled plum, blackberry and black currant fruit sailing through atop a velvety structure while mouthwatering bay, black tea and iron notes flow underneath. Seductive, detailed finish lets a sanguine note echo longest. Gorgeous wine. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2023 through 2036. 9,183 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Fresh and silky in feel, with light herb and sanguine notes amid the cassis and cherry puree flavors. Graceful and very pure. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. 9,183 cases made. Score range: 93 – 96."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The medium to deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Malescot St. Exupery leaps from the glass with expressive scents of baked blackberries, Morello cherries and boysenberries with hints of blackcurrant cordial, dark chocolate, licorice and tilled soil. The medium to full-bodied palate has impressive intensity without heaviness, delivering mouth-coating black fruits and a firm, grainy texture, finishing with a refreshing earthy lift."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The deep garnet-purple colored 2018 Malescot St. Exupery comes prancing out of the glass with flamboyant raspberry coulis, kirsch and redcurrant jelly scents over a fresh blackcurrant and boysenberry core with wafts of red roses, cinnamon stick and forest floor. Full-bodied, rich and opulent in the mouth, the palate delivers stacks of red fruit, cassis and floral layers with a firm, finely grained frame and plenty of freshness, finishing long and fragrant. Just lovely."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

- Reviews** *“A seductive Margaux with an intense nose of black fruit and red plums. Some herb and wood notes, too. It’s full-bodied with pretty, pure-berry flavors with some crushed stones and cement. The texture is silky and fine-grained, and the tannins melt into the wine. Precise, flavorful finish with length. Try after 2024.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “A structured and muscular Malescot with blackberry and blackcurrant aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, chewy tannins and a flavorful finish. Big wine for this producer.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “This up-and-coming estate has produced a rich, generous wine. Its tannins are open and broad, giving power to the black currant flavor and fine acidity. It will certainly be an attractive, fruity and fresh wine as it matures.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot (planted; assemblage for 2018 not confirmed). Barrel sample. Black core with narrow rim. Pretty oaky on the nose but a hint of something prettily floral underneath. The oak is covering the fruit at the moment but there’s flesh at the core, and the tannins are just slightly hard on the finish. The juicy fruit in the middle gives it a chance for the future. (JH)”*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- “Confident and balanced. This is enjoyable, with enough graphite and chocolate shavings to ensure a gourmet take on the vintage, but not going over the top and retaining flesh through the black fruits. 5% Petit Verdot completes the blend.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Malescot is always a relatively modern style, and it stays true to form in 2018. It's an enjoyable, high energy wine but it doesn't quite reach the heights of its 2016. It's a rich damson colour, with plump fruit on the attack. The oak impact is a little forced, and this is clearly aiming for vibrancy and character. 5% Petit Verdot completes the blend. Drinking Window 2026 - 2038. Barrel Sample: 93.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Almost opaque in color, this full-bodied, lusciously textured, round, rich gem provides layers of ripe, sweet, dark red fruits, licorice, espresso, plums and cherries. The combination of velvety tannins, intensity and a plush finish hits the spot. If you can keep your hands off it for a decade or so, this is going to be an outstanding wine to enjoy for the following 2 decades after that.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Dark, almost inky in color, the wine offers intensity, richness, velvet textures and purity of fruit. The array of black, deep red and nearly blue fruit with smoke, flowers, earth, espresso and licorice leaves a marked impression on the nose, on the palate and in the long, silky, polished finish.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Deep in colour, with a ripe nose of blue fruits and boysenberries. The palate is exotic and rich, modern, and plush, with chocolatey ripe tannins and raisined fruits. Despite this, it is not overworked or over-sweet, simply a ripe and hedonistic, smoky wine with generous fruit and supple tannins. Long and cassis-led on the finish, with just a hint of bonfire smoke.”*  
- Farr Vintners
- “The 2018 Malescot St. Exupery has a very attractive bouquet of detailed scents of red currant, wild strawberry, wilted rose petals and crushed stone, all gaining intensity with aeration. The palate is medium bodied with supple tannins matched with a fine bead of acidity. It feels a little more compact than its Margaux peers and exerts an insistent grip on the finish. But I admire its focus and precision. A Margaux that should age with style over the next 20–30 years.”*  
- NM, Vinous

**Reviews** " The 2018 Malescot Saint Exupéry is every bit as compelling as it was from barrel. Powerful and incisive, the 2018 is a driving, potent Margaux that dazzles from the first taste. Iron, smoke, new leather, licorice, pressed rose petal and cedar all open in the glass, conveying tremendous nuance and a ton of character."  
- AG, Vinous

"The 2018 Malescot Saint Exupéry is fabulous. Powerful and explosive in the glass, and yet remarkably polished, the 2018 is impressive. Graphite, smoke, gravel, spice, and leather infuse a potent, full-bodied Margaux built on structure. Even so, in this vintage, Malescot shows unusually supple tannins and a softer feel than is usually the case. The blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. Tasted three times."  
- AG, Vinous

"I loved the 2018 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry from barrel two years ago, and it certainly doesn't disappoint from bottle today. Based on 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, this deeply hued beauty boasts smoking good notes of blackcurrants, smoked tobacco, chocolate, and spice. Full-bodied and impressively concentrated, it has a stacked mid-palate, ripe, sweet yet certainly present tannins, a terrific sense of freshness, and a great finish. It's going to fun comparing this and the 2016 over the coming two decades! While there's some up-front accessibility and charm here, it really needs 4-6 years of bottle age and is going to have 20-25 years of overall longevity. This is gem of a wine that's well worth seeking out."  
- Jeb Dunnuck

"Tasted twice and showing incredibly well both times, the 2018 Château Malescot Saint-Exupéry comes from a 28-hectare vineyard in the heart of Margaux and is a rough blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and the balance Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. This full-bodied Margaux has everything you could want from this appellation, offering incredibly complex notes of cassis, tobacco, earth, and spice, full body, sweet tannins, no hard edges, and a great, great finish. It's an incredibly sexy, flawlessly balanced beauty that's going to be relatively approachable in its youth yet age effortlessly on its balance and purity. Barrel Sample: 94-96"  
- Jeb Dunnuck

"(60 Cabernet Sauvignon, 32 Merlot, 8 Cabernet Franc) | 70% new oak | 14.1% alc. Tasted on two occasions - the first time it was not my style at all with sour and slightly mouldy fruit and rather tough oak. The second time I really like it with a complete palate and a juicy outlook. I can only assume that the first sample was stale. My score refers to the second tasting sample!"  
- MJ, matthewjukes.com

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