

# Château Malescot St. Exupéry 2021

CSPC# 848997

750mlx6

13.5% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot
<b>Appellation</b>	Margaux
<b>Classification</b>	Third Growth. Troisième Grand Cru Classé in 1855.
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.malescot.com/">http://www.malescot.com/</a>
<b>Sustainability</b>	Sustainable farming practices.
<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 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.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Cellar Master: Gilles Pouget. Oenologist Consultant: Michel Rolland
<b>Vintage</b>	Winter was once again marked by alternating cool and mild periods. The arrival of March saw reduced levels of rainfall (17.2 mm) and warm temperatures of around 26°C. These mild conditions awoke nature from its rest 10 days earlier than anticipated, with bud break occurring on 25th March. Vines were swiftly met by spring frost that struck the region on 7th April. However, owing to our privileged geography - 600m from the Gironde estuary - our plots were protected entirely from any damage. April proved to be exceptionally dry, having been recorded as the 11th driest year since 1959. Fortunately, the vines did not suffer any impact, thanks to sufficient water reserves amassed over winter in our clay subsoils. Optimal conditions encourage flowering from 31st May, followed by rising temperatures at the start of June, marking the start of summer. After patches of rain at the beginning of July, good weather soon resumed in time for the start of veraison on 21st July, with ideal temperatures in line with seasonal norms.
<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>	Hand-picked between 30 September and 5 October, before stopping to wait for more complete maturity, despite the unfavorable weather forecast, recommencing between October 12 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> .
<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. 15 months' barrel ageing (70% new barrels) before being racked without fining or filtration.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Medium-deep crimson. Cassis and carob hints with vegemite aromas. Chocolatey palate with blackcurrant, malty flavours, and fine grained/ gritty textures. Very good mid-palate richness and mineral length.
<b>Serve with</b>	Château Malescot St. Exupéry is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Production</b>	9,000 cases made.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2025-2035



**Scores/Awards** **87 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - January 2024  
**93 points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024  
**92-94 points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022  
**85-87 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022  
**94 points** - Zekun Shuai, JamesSuckling.com - December 2023  
**94-95 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022  
**17 points** - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2022  
**90 points** - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022  
**90 points** - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2022  
**93 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024  
**92-94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022  
**90-92 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022  
**94 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024  
**93-95 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022  
**91 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2024  
**91-94 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022  
**16.5 points** - Matthew Jukes - August 2022  
**90 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022  
**92 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022  
**92-93 points** - Bettane & Desseave (score only) - May 2022

**Reviews** *"Leads with bay leaf and savory accents, followed by earth-tinged red and black currant fruit flavors. Reveals a leathery accent on the finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2026. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 9,000 cases made."*  
 - JM, Wine Spectator

*"The 2021 Malescot St. Exupery has turned out nicely in its fleshy, flamboyant style, bursting with aromas of dark berries, cherries, and creamy new oak. Medium to full-bodied, velvety, and seamless, with supple tannins and a lively core of fruit, it's a strong effort."*

*This rather small, family-owned estate amounts to just over 28 hectares of vines. At the time of the 1855 classification, Malescot St. Exupery was much larger, but over the years, various proprietors sold off parcels, leaving the estate's holdings mostly concentrated on the plateau. Maturation is relatively unusual, in that the wines aren't racked and see bâtonnage of the lees, and they're bottled without either fining or filtration. Since around 2000, when Jean Luc Zuger's investments and changes started to make an impact, Malescot's style became rather rich and fleshy, standing out as one of the more dramatic, demonstrative wines in the appellation. In 2021, the Malescot team picked between 30 September and 5 October before stopping to wait for more complete maturity, despite the unfavorable weather forecast, recommencing between October 12th and 20th."*

- WK, Wine Advocate

*"The 2021 Malescot St. Exupery is a terrific effort, offering up aromas of sweet cassis and plums mingled with notions of licorice, espresso roast and toasty oak. Medium to full-bodied, ample, and fleshy, it's impressively layered, with a sweet core of fruit, ripe tannins and lively acids. The dramatic style of the château has worked very well with the cooler, later-maturing vintage. The blend is 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot."*

- WK, Wine Advocate

*"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2021 Malescot Saint Exupery gives up cedar chest and red currant jelly scents with touches of bay leaves and mossy tree bark. Light to medium-bodied, the palate is subtle and uncomplicated with a chewy finish. 2025-2033."*

- LPB, Wine Independent

*"Very floral with black currant and black cherry aromas with hints of lavender. Floral. Medium-bodied with firm and silky tannins that show beautiful length and polish. Goes on for a long time for the vintage. Classy. Drink after 2026."*

- ZS, JamesSuckling.com

**Reviews** *"A tight and focused young red with redcurrant and blackberry character. It's medium-bodied with racy and fine tannins and a linear, focused finish. Lots going on, yet it's tight and energetic."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot. Cask sample. Mid to dark crimson. Sweet, seductive nose. Very gentle tannins which lurk rather than dominate. A wine that really does taste like a young wine – and a young Margaux at that – that will blossom. Dry but not too drying finish. Neat. Very classic claret with sufficient but not excessive ripeness. Though there is nothing remotely flashy about it and I may be being too generous with my score; its charms are quite subtle. And it's not especially concentrated. A 'fluid' wine... Some may criticize it for its lack of weight. Drink 2027 – 2042."*  
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

*"High-toned and almost sharp fruit aspects on the palate but reigned back by freshness and fine tannins that provide a soft, supportive base. There is concentration but not so much weight in the mid-palate at the moment, rather the flavours are more lifted and aerial giving tone and nuance without so many layers. A little bit rustic also on the finish with some green pepper, clove and cinnamon coming through. Will no doubt harmonise and expand over ageing."*  
- GH, Decanter.com

*"Attractive smoky oak, well handled grilled smoke aromatics. This is rich but harmonious and balanced and goes long on the Margaux floral aromatics. Soft on the finish but lots to enjoy. Harvest September 30 to October 20. An enjoyable wine in the vintage from owner Jean-Luc Zuger."*  
- JA, janeanson.com

*"Flowers, espresso, licorice, and black cherries line the perfume. The palate is supple, creamy, and vibrant with a touch of savory herbs and oak that accompanies the plums and dark cocoa-dusted cherries in the mid-palate and in the finish. Drink from 2027-2050."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"Initially you notice the brightness in the fruits before moving to the flowers, tobacco leaf, espresso, smoke, and earthy nuances. The wine is focused on its vibrancy, freshness, and fleshy style, managing to find the perfect balance between all three characteristics. The wine is a blend of 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. Drink from 2027-2050."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"The 2021 Malescot Saint Exupéry has quite a high-toned bouquet with black cherries, blueberry, and violet aromas, exuberant compared to its peers. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, fine acidity, quite focused yet there is just a little dryness and abruptness on the finish. That might be remedied during its élevage so let's see how this turns out. I was anticipating a bit more from this excellent Margaux estate, but maybe it will meliorate in barrel? Not beyond possibility."*  
- NM, Vinous

*"The 2021 Malescot St. Exupéry is beautiful—a wine that isn't trying to be too much in this challenging vintage. Floral aromatics and silky tannins give this mid-weight edition of Malescot quite a bit of charm. All the elements are so nicely balanced. Crushed flowers, dark red/purplish fruit, mint, spice, and a dash of orange peel linger. This is nicely done."*  
- AG, Vinous

*"The 2021 Malescot St. Exupéry is another terrific wine from a property that has been trending towards finesse. The 2021 represents another step in that direction, helped by the vintage, of course. Red cherry, iron, blood orange, spice, tobacco, and cedar build as this mid-weight, savory Margaux shows off its considerable charms. Pretty floral top notes accent the finish. Tasted two times."*  
- AG, Vinous

**Reviews**

*“The 2021 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry is rock-solid in the vintage, with a plump, medium-bodied, nicely textured style. Red and blue fruits, tobacco, spice, and some leafy herb notes all define the aromatics, and it has enough concentration and class to evolve for 10-12 years, if not longer. The blend is 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Petit Verdot, aged 12-14 months in barrel.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“Beautifully balanced, the 2021 Château Malescot Saint Exupéry is a classic, impressive 2021 that's worth seeking out. Darker fruits, spice, dried herbs, and a kiss of flowers all emerge on the nose, and it's medium-bodied, has ripe tannins, and shows the pretty, graceful style of the vintage.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“The oak is dominant and spicy, and the tannins seem pretty raw, but there is a mass of fruit in this wine's core, so they have done something right in the vineyard. It will fall into line early in its life and provide rather exciting, hectic flavours, and then I expect it to run out of gas, or rather balance! But there is good fun and some genuine flair here, so dive in for early drinking if the price is right. 16.5.”*

- Matthew Jukes

*“Opaque ruby core, purple reflections, subtle brightening on the rim. Elegant aromas of blackberries with hints of black cherry, spice, and tobacco nuances. Juicy, elegant, fine dark berry fruit, integrated tannins and minerality with a long length, great ageing potential.”*

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

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