

Château Rauzan-Ségla 2017

CSPC# 813895

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

CSPC# 785925

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Margaux
Classification	Second Growth. Deuxième Grand Cru Classé in 1855. Previously called Chateau Rausan-Segla
Website	https://www.chateaurauzansegla.com/en/
General Info	<p>Château Rauzan-Ségla and Mouton Rothschild were considered the leading 2^{em} Cru Classé Bordeaux properties during the 19th century. However, while the fortunes of Mouton prospered in the 20th century, culminating in its elevation to 1^{er} Cru status in 1973, Rauzan-Ségla's reputation dwindled, and a succession of disappointing wines were produced.</p> <p>In the early 80s the Rauzan-Segla was sold, and the renaissance began. The eminent Professor Peynaud was appointed as a consultant and the proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend was increased, as was the proportion of new oak used in the maturation process. In 1986, a brand-new cuverie was built.</p> <p>A succession of eye-catching wines was produced at Rauzan-Ségla in the mid to late 80s and early 1990s. Rauzan-Segla was bought by Chanel in 1994.</p> <p>The wines of Rauzan Segla are meant to age, allowing the wine to develop complexity, aromas, and textures. They do not offer much pleasure young. Tannic, rich, structured, and full bodied, with time, the wine offers complex spicy and floral aromatics, purity of fruit, refined textures, concentration, and harmony that few other wines deliver. 2005, 2009 and 2010 are all stunning examples of Chateau Rauzan Segla at its best.</p>
Winemaker	Nicolas Audebert (since 2014)
Vintage	The estate lost about 15 hectares to frost—mostly that which goes into Segla (the second label). The blocks closer to the river were relatively unscathed, so less Segla was made this vintage. The final blends went into barrel in late February.
Vineyards	The 52-hectare Margaux vineyard has increased in size over the years. Most notably in 2008, when they purchased 8.5 hectares from Chateau de La Bourgade. 52 hectares on deep fine gravel with clay at different layers planted to 6600-10000 vines per hectare. Plantings comprise 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Green harvest and leaf thinning. Grapes entirely hand-picked into twenty kilo boxes and then sorted on a vibrating table at the cellar. Grapes are de-stemmed without crushing.
Harvest	The harvest took place from September 12 to September 28. The Grand Vin was made from 55% of the harvest.
Vinification	35 stainless steel and temperature-controlled vats# with capacities between 41-220hl which provide for single plot fermentation. 6-8-day alcoholic fermentation with pumping over is followed typically by a maceration of 12-20 days depending on the vintage.
Maturation	The wine is aged in approximately 50-60% new oak, medium toast from a variety of coopers, in French oak. During barrel maturation, the barriques are topped twice weekly, and then racked every three months. Egg white fining, no filtration. 10,000 cases of the Grand Vin produced and 10,000 cases of the second wine Ségla are made.
Tasting Notes	Looking, smelling, and tasting a glass of Rauzan Segla wine is an invitation to a journey like no other. An adventure that is full of unique and delicious experiences that characterise the fine wines from Bordeaux. This journey of pleasure begins on the eye. The beauty of a color so intense that is impossible to take one's eyes off of it. A color that draws us in and makes us want to discover its secrets. The pleasure of its luxurious aromas disclosing cigar box notes which combine harmoniously with



Tasting Notes	aromas of ripe fruits. Like a protective cocoon promising the ultimate in epicurean pleasures. The first sip coats the palate seductively with a combination of finesse, elegance, and unparalleled charm. The wine's smooth, complex texture will make you want to linger over the tasting experience. To taste a glass of Rauzan-Ségla is to savor its fruity freshness and let yourself be transported by its silky-smooth texture, the result of over 3 centuries of winemaking expertise. It is to get lost in the eternal pleasures of tasting a fine Bordeaux, safe in the knowledge that it will reveal all its magnificent power over the years to come
Serve with	Chateau Rauzan Segla is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Rauzan Segla is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2035
Scores/Awards	<p>94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2020</p> <p>91-94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2018</p> <p>96+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2020</p> <p>94-96 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate #236 - April 2018</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2020</p> <p>94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2018</p> <p>95 points/Cellar Selection - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2020</p> <p>94-96 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2018</p> <p>16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - May 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2018</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018</p> <p>95-97 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2018</p> <p>16.5+ points - Farr Vintner - April 2018</p> <p>89-93 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2018</p> <p>94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2020</p> <p>92-94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2018</p> <p>94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2020</p> <p>90-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2018</p> <p>94+ points - Jeb Dunnock MW - February 2020</p> <p>17.5+ points - Matthew Jukes, MW - April 2018</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Inviting, with seductive damson plum, red currant, blackberry and black cherry puree flavors layered together, stitched with dried anise, sandalwood and black tea threads. Very fine acidity flows underneath, carrying this through a suave and lengthy finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Verdot. Best from 2022 through 2035"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Fresh, showing damson plum and bitter cherry fruit laced with a savory streak and boasting a bright iron note, this has a mouthwatering edge thanks to the acidity, which creates a very refined structure for this elegant red."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Rauzan-Ségla rocks up with vibrant notions of cherry pie, warm cassis, blackberry preserves and red roses with hints of cinnamon stick and cloves. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is completely filled with wonderfully pure red and black fruits, framed by firm, very ripe, fine-grained tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and spicy. Yum! The blend is 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot. Drink Date 2024 - 2050 "</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Composed of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot and sporting a deep garnet-purple color, the 2017 Rauzan-Ségla (Rausan-Ségla) has a profound nose of cassis, warm blackberries and black plums with touches of baking spices, violets, mocha and smoke plus a waft of garrigue. Medium to full-bodied with a great core of sustained, energetic black fruit, a frame of fine-grained tannins and a lively backbone, it finishes with great length."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

Reviews *“There’s a very balanced feel to this wine with ripe blueberries and red plums, as well as dried flowers. The palate has a supple, smooth build of rich, blueberry and cassis flavor and a long, fine-tannin finish. A blend of 62% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot and 2% petit verdot. Drink or hold.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“This is tight and focused with a super precise palate of blackberries, blackcurrants and hints of flowers. Full body, linear tannins and a long finish.”
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“This is a powerful, dense wine. Tannins come through strongly as does the dynamic black fruit. Likely to develop slowly, the wine's concentration is impressive. Drink from 2024.”
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“94–96. Barrel Sample. This wine has a densely tannic structure and ripe berry fruits that are just beginning to shine. Acidity, spice and richness suggest this has good aging potential. It should be held until 2024.”
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“At this stage more intense crimson than the 2016! Smells of macerated raisins. I wonder how they made this. A bit sweet-and-sour. Less beautifully integrated than other recent vintages here – I even got a flash of the taste of English mustard! Not forced – quite nicely rounded tannins – but very non classical. Sort of very obviously assembled rather than organically grown. Slightly awkward scrawniness on the end. Drink 2023-2032”
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Inky core and purple rim. Not much on the nose, a touch of black olive as well as black fruit and a woody oak note. Relatively subdued on the palate but juicy and with more energy than some. Juicy fruit right through to the sustained finish. Drink 2023-2037”
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

“Rich, tight and deep, this wine has been extremely well handled in a vintage that suits this elegant style. There isn't the depth and complexity of expression that was seen in the previous two vintages, but it gets across the signature of the estate in an earlier drinking form - the absolute essence of what you want in a trickier vintage. If priced well, it's a buy. (JA)”
- JA, Decanter.com

“Deep in color, this wine is violets, licorice, coffee bean, thyme and ripe red fruits which take no effort to find. The wine is luxurious, concentrated and bright with a texture that feels like the deep fruits were polished with velvet. On the palate, there is a sweetness and juicy quality to the fruit combined with energy and a kiss of oak. Give this a decade or just a bit longer and this beauty will really shine. The wine was produced from blending 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot, reaching 13.0% alcohol with a pH of 3.68. The harvest took place September 12 to September 28. The Grand Vin was made from 55% of the harvest.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Deep colour. Super inviting aroma of sweet red and black fruit with some spices and chocolate. Fresh floral notes, and good acidity, with well-integrated tannins and juiciness. Really very well made and well extracted fruit flavours with great depth, layered complexity and fresh acidity. Very good quality indeed. Elegant, classic. Long. Barrel Sample: 95-97”
- TA, timatkin.com

“The well-situated vineyards here managed to avoid the April frosts almost completely and the yield is a fairly normal 40 hl/ha. All the fruit gathered for both the first and second wines was from unaffected vineyards. Élevage in 60% new oak. As usual there is more second wine - Segla - produced than first wine, ensuring top quality in both wines. Bright ruby in the glass with a spicy, smoky nose of toasted cumin, violets and cassis. The palate is silky and polished, with seamless, ripe, integrated tannins and creamy vanilla

Reviews *from new oak. This rounded, plush texture allows the compact but pure fruit core to shine through and build to the finish. This is understated & elegant, with an aromatic, lifted finish of cherry blossom and vanilla pod.”*
- Farr Vintners

“The black fruits on the nose are ripe depth of flavour the palate has sweet fruit mid suppleness a fleshy mix of damson and black cherry. There is balance underling bilberry, but it is the sweet fruit that comes through and gives richness and depth on the finish. Drink 2024-2038.”
- Derek Smedley MW

“The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla was bottled at the end of May 2019 according to winemaker Nicolas Audebert. It has a broodier nose than expected, perhaps a tad closed after bottling, but there is certainly sufficient blackberry and raspberry fruit, subtle pressed violet, soupçon of shucked oyster shell scents emerging with time. The palate is medium bodied with supple tannins struck through by a fine bead of acidity. It feels rounded and velvety in texture, quite persistent in the mouth with a caressing finish that perhaps does not quite deliver the complexity or pixilation of a really top growing season. Otherwise, plainly speaking, bloody delicious. (NM)”
- NM, Vinous

“The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla is matured in 50% new oak with 14% vin de presse, which was apparently from the high-quality Cabernet this year. It has a fascinating bouquet with pure blackberry, iris, crushed stone and a light estuarine influence that becomes stronger with aeration, just a faint touch of oyster shell developing in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin, crisp acidity, very elegant and refined, possibly the most feminine Rauzan-Ségla in recent years with a silky-smooth finish. It is not the instant showstopper like the 2015 – this is more understated and needs time for its quality to be fully appreciated. Tasted on three occasions. Drink 2022-2045.”
- NM, Vinous

“The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla is coming together very nicely. Soft and silky, the 2017 is a wine of pure and total finesse. Sweet red cherry and plum fruit, tobacco, cedar and licorice add pretty top notes, but more than anything else, the 2017 impresses with its statuesque elegance and total balance; nothing in particular stands out. For that reason, Rauzan-Ségla is the sort of wine that is easy to overlook, and yet all the elements of a top notch Left-Bank wine are present. Tasted three times.”
- AG, Vinous

“The 2017 Rauzan-Ségla is a fleshy, seductive wine. Soft contours and ripe silky tannins add to the wine's immediacy and sheer appeal. The viticultural and winemaking team has succeeded in adding finesse and detail to the Grand Vin without altering its classic sense of structure and proportion. A vertical explosion of fruit laced with expressive floral notes build into the finish in a classy, understated Margaux that hits all the right notes. Hints of tobacco, crushed flowers, leather, licorice and dried cherry add the closing shades of nuance. What a gorgeous wine this is. Tasted three times.”
- AG, Vinous

“This estate continues to fashion a complex, elegant, seamless style of wine. The 2017 Chateau Rauzan-Ségla offers a deep purple color as well as gorgeous notes of cassis, crushed violets, tobacco, and leafy herbs. Pure Margaux on the palate with its medium to full-bodied, ultra-fine, seamless texture, this flawlessly balanced 2017 will benefit from 4-5 years of bottle age and keep for 20-25 years. The blend is 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, and 2% Petit Verdot, all aged in 60% new French oak. 94+”
- Jeb Dunnuck

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- MJ, matthewjukes.com
