

Château Rauzan-Ségla 2019

CSPC# 866069

750mlx12

14.2% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	62% Cabernet-Sauvignon, 35.5% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, 0.5% Cabernet Franc
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	Cellar Master: Henry de Ruffray Consulting oenologist: Jacques et Eric Boissenot
Vintage	Winter: mild and dry Spring: cool and wet Summer: dry and hot Autumn: Rainfall in mid-September beneficial to the Cabernet Sauvignons
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	Cabernet Sauvignon: 25 September to 9 October Merlot: 12 to 25 September Petit Verdot: 26 September and 7 October Cabernet Franc: 30 September
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	In French oak barrel, with a medium or medium-long toasting. Racking via the bunghole. Fining with egg whites in barrel. 18 months in barriques, 60% new.
Tasting Notes	The 2019 vintage is alluring because of its discreet elegance. It is as if the winemaker sensed the appeal of revealing its photo in black and white while leaving a tantalising graininess. It emits an aura of mystery, a veil of modesty that creates a gentle and cocooning atmosphere that accounts for its charm. The fruit seems to develop smoothly on the palate before reaching an uplifting finale. It has a lot of class. Vibrancy, too. Aromas of morello cherry, iris and rosemary. The fresh fig confers an aromatic hint that seems to last forever, and it has the texture of all great Margaux wines, between power and sophistication. A great Rauzan.



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 now-2034

Scores/Awards **93 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022
96 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022
98 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - March 2022
96 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022
17.5+ points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - June 2020
18 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - December 2021
96 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022
96 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020
96 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022
97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022
95-98 points - Farr Vintners - May 2020
97 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022
96 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022
97 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022
95 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020
96+ points - Thomas Parker MW - March 2022
97 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine (score only) - June 2020
18 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022
18 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020

Reviews *"Offers a very elegant core of red and black currant and damson plum fruit that glides through with silky structure for support, while light mulling spice and incense notes infuse the finish. A rather understated style, but sneaky long and very refined. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2034."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2019 Rauzan-Ségla has turned out brilliantly, unwinding in the glass with fragrant aromas of cassis, blackberries, violets, rose petals and sweet soil tones. Medium to full-bodied, seamless, and concentrated, it's deep and layered, with beautifully refined tannins, lively acids, and a long, perfumed finish. This is a sensual, elegant Rauzan-Ségla from Nicolas Audebert and his team. Drink Date 2029 – 2065."
- WK, Wine Advocate

"Composed of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35.5% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, and 0.5% Cabernet Franc, the 2019 Rauzan-Ségla is deep garnet-purple colored. It is a little closed and broody to begin, soon fanning out to offer up notes of kirsch, black cherry preserves, and warm cassis, plus touches of smoked meats, wild blueberries, violets, and cedar chest, along with a hint of charcoal. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is very tightly wound with loads of earthy accents among the densely laden fruit and fine-grained tannins, finishing long and savory."
- LPB, Wine Independent

"Subtle and complex aromas of sweet berries, rose stems and lavender with some sandalwood. Medium-to full-bodied with beautiful depth of fruit, creamy tannins and lots of chocolate and berry character. Yet, it's tight at the end, showing beautiful depth and length. So structured. Try after 2027."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Barrel sample. Margaux finesse at the top table. Poised and fragrant with vineyard-fresh dark fruit and cassis aromas. Exquisite palate, juicy but seamless, the fine tannins and perfectly pitched fruit in absolute harmony. Silky texture. Long, clean, digeste finish. Drink 2027 – 2045."
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

"Dark crimson. Much purplier than Rauzan-Gassies. Complex and round with many a layer and real drive. First-growth concentration and complexity. A real star. Brooding, in the most impressive way. Very long and exciting. 14.2% Drink 2028 – 2050."
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

Reviews

“Mineral edged nose full of violet floral notes and blackcurrants, such delicacy. Gorgeous mouthfeel, the texture standing out straight away - filling, rich and round, dense and juicy - really delivering a punch of ripe, cherry fruit, covering the cheeks in chewy but crushed velvet like tannins. Creamy notes come through and then the spice, liquorice menthol flavours arrive and dominate giving a cool, fresh, rippling minerality towards the finish. Power and precision. Really a wine of two halves, the first juicy and alive the second half deep, dark, and seductive. Excellent character still restrained not showing everything but offering a glimmer of glamour that will shine through more over time. 100% biodynamic from 2020, should be certified by 2024. Drinking Window 2025 – 2046”

- GH, Decanter.com

“The black fruits burrow downwards through the palate at first, keeping things pretty closed, everything holding its breath, before the fruit opens. There is the precision of Rauzan Ségla that is reminiscent of the 2016, less of the immediate voluptuous impact of 2018 but the density becomes extremely clear in the glass. A serious Rauzan, cassis and cedar, still with a rinse of iris flowers to give it the Margaux touch. 3.73pH. 50/50 1st and 2nd wine. A yield of 42l/ha. Drinking Window 2028 - 2044.”

- JA, Decanter.com

“Opens with a curl of gourmet smoked caramel, this is well made and well delivered, architectural, clear oak influence but not overly sweet. Cabernet Sauvignon-dominant fruits, with black cherry and cassis, and a fragrant iris flower finish. Harvest 12th September to October 9th. 42hl/ha yield, 60% new French oak.”

- JA, Inside Bordeaux

“Silky, seductive, and sensuous, the nose, with its blend of flowers, tobacco leaf, espresso bean, violets, roses, and red pit fruits is already quite showy. Medium/full-bodied, fresh, vibrant, clean, and pure, the fruit offers length, depth and complexity. But it will need a bit of time to fully express its essence. If you have a bit of patience, it will be worth the wait. Drink from 2030-2060.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Nicolas Audebert described Rauzan Segla 2019 to us as being stylistically a mix of the 2015 and 2016 vintages. It is a bit less concentrated and powerful than the 2018, but that was an extreme vintage. It may have less concentration but not less density. 19 Rauzan is dense with great stuffing, it is extremely long and persistent. Less flashy than its predecessor, but so elegant and refined. Nicolas concluded by saying that it reminded him of the great 2010 and 1996 vintages here.

The 2019 is a blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35.5% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot and 0.5% Cabernet Franc. The abv is 14.2%, following a harvest from 12th September for the first Merlot to 9th October for the last Cabernet Sauvignon. The yield is 42hl/ha, and the wine will be aged in 60% new French oak for 18 months. Deep purple in colour with ripe cassis and black cherry layered by a hit of umami from truffle and cedar. The palate is floral and vibrant, dark but fresh blackcurrant intermingling with violets and graphite. The tannins are supple and ripe, adding to the sensation of weightless intensity. The fruit is powerful, glossy, and ripe, but tamed by acidity. Incredibly pure, perfumed and mineral through to a long, cool, and driven finish. Tasted in Bordeaux.”

- Farr Vintners

“The 2019 Rauzan-Ségla is a wine that I did not taste en primeur. Picked from September 12 to October 9 and matured in 60% new oak, it has a gorgeous, seductive bouquet of pure blackberry, bilberry, crushed iris petals and just a hint of licorice. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins and good cohesion and depth. The oak is seamlessly integrated on the finish, which lingers like a temptress. Two samples tasted, the second demonstrating a little more salinity on the aftertaste. This will be irresistible”

- NM, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2019 Rauzan-Ségla is a statuesque Margaux that is all in reserve. There is plenty of power and depth, but the 2019 is pretty closed today. Even so, the 2019 is clearly a wine of harmony and exquisite balance that is playing its cards close to the vest. Sweet dark cherry, plum, licorice spice and a touch of new oak are laced into the vibrant, persistent finish. The 2019 is a super-classic Rauzan-Ségla that will thrill those who can wait. Tasted three times.”*
- AG, Vinous

“The Grand Vin 2019 Château Rauzan-Ségla is beautiful, and it seems this estate can do no wrong since 2015. A more elegant, ethereal, complex Margaux, it has a perfumed and complex style in its red, blue, and black fruits as well as notes of white flowers, chalky minerality, and exotic spices. Haute couture at its finest and seamless, medium to full-bodied, perfectly balanced, and just stunning any way you look at it, it already offers pleasure today yet will easily have 30 years of prime drinking.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35.5% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot and 0.5% Cabernet Franc. Bright purple in colour, with a hyper fragrant nose of violets, cherry blossom, and sweetly spiced plums. The palate is finely etched, with the same floral tones dominating the fruit core. This is a wine focused on elegance and vibrancy, lithe in structure with bright acidity and gentle, powdery tannins. There is a sense of weightless intensity that makes for a deceptively approachable style. Pure and long on the finish, this should have a long, open drinking window and appeal to those who want a wine led by harmony over power.”
- Tom Parker MW
