

Château Grand Puy Lacoste 2016

CSPC# 814271

750mlx6

13.3% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot
Appellation	Pauillac
Classification	Fifth Growth. Grand Cru Classé in 1855
Website	http://www.chateau-grand-puy-lacoste.com/en/wine/1/chateau-grand-puy-lacoste/2015#/en/wine/1/chateau-grand-puy-lacoste/2016
General Info	5th classified growth in 1855. The name of Grand-Puy comes from the old expression "puy" which means "hill, little hill", and this land is mentioned in documents dating from the Middle Ages. Indeed, the vineyard extends on one of the ridges of land which were made the first wines of the Medoc. Since the sixteenth century, the thought has passed from generation to generation and, by way of alliances between families, he stayed within the same descent until 1920, before resuming a destiny with Borie family in 1978. Under the leadership of François-Xavier Borie (Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou), GP Lacoste is the perfect example of a classic Pauillac, tannic and full bodied. A wine for keeping, which makes part of the top of the Medoc wines.
Winemaker	Ms. Christel Spinner. Consultant oenologist M. Eric Boissenot
Vintage	Grand Puy Lacoste 2016 is an example once again of a vintage marked by a significant proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon in the assemblage - 79%, which demonstrates the tremendous potential of its terroir. The wine has a deep, bright crimson colour. There are aromas of intense black fruit which explode on the nose, underlining the character of perfectly ripe grapes whilst retaining an attractive mineral freshness. The whole is floral with a touch of spiciness. On the palate, there is a crescendo of flavours, suave, dense and complex. 2016 has fine balance and freshness coupled with a long finish sustained by ripe tannins. Once more, we find in this fine vintage the expression of the great terroir of Grand Puy Lacoste which underlines all its richness, complexity and elegance. It will take its place without any doubt among the great successes of the property thus completing a fine trilogy of vintages.
Vineyards	The vines of this Fifth Growth chateau stretch across 55 hectares of the Pauillac commune, lying across well-draining gravel soil. The result is a concentrated, polished wine, showing classic Pauillac notes of dark berries, plum, spices and earth. These bottlings are dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, which benefits from the deep gravel topsoil with a limestone basis. The Cabernet provides structure which allows these wines to generally outperform their classification. There's good aging potential here too. The estate produces a second wine called Lacoste-Borie. 90 hectares around the castle. Grape varieties of vines 75% Cabernet Sauvignon - Merlot 20% - 5% Cabernet Franc; 10,000 vines / hectare; Average vine age 38 years
Harvest	Hand picked between September 28th to October 13th 2016
Maturation	Two successive selections before and after the destemming process. A long period of maceration (about 3 weeks). Ageing in French oak barrels (75% new barrels each vintage) for between 16 to 18 months depending on the vintage.
Tasting Notes	<p>The wines have a beautiful, deep color, the aromas are very pure and complex, subtle and refined. Depending on the vintage, one's first impression may be of ripe fruit or flowers, often toasted notes, spice and vanilla... With time it develops a remarkably full, rich character. In the mouth one is struck by its elegant individuality from the very first impression through the last moments of a finish which affords continual and subtly changing pleasure. The flavors support and amplify its aromatic sensations with a notably large range of fruit, particularly cassis which develops with age. The wines are well-built, with a powerful tannic structure which never loses its silky smoothness.</p> <p>The fourth dimension of Grand-Puy-Lacoste is time. By nature, a wine for long ageing, it needs between eight and ten years to reveal its full potential, bringing power and harmony together. Each vintage fully develops after a period corresponding to its</p>



Tasting Notes	profile. "Patience is rewarded with complex aromas of dried fruit, Havana tobacco and cedar wood, smooth tannins and an exceptionally long aromatic finish" Markus del Monego, world's best sommelier in 1998
Serve with	Chateau Grand Puy Lacoste is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Grand Puy Lacoste is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes.
Production	10,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2021-2039
Scores/Awards	<p>94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019</p> <p>94-97 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p>94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018</p> <p>95-97 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017</p> <p>97 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2019</p> <p>96-97 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2017</p> <p>91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2019</p> <p>92-94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2018</p> <p>17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017</p> <p>96 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - October 2018</p> <p>94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017</p> <p>96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2019</p> <p>96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2018</p> <p>96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017</p> <p>97 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2017</p> <p>17.5+ points - Farr Vintner - February 2017</p> <p>90-93 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2017</p> <p>95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>95+ points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>93-96 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2017</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"A lively style, with lots of briar and tobacco notes out front, backed by punchy plum and black currant paste flavors. Has a shot of sweet tobacco lining the finish, with echoes of savory and hints of iron giving this range and length. Best from 2023 through 2038. 10,000 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Ripe, but sleek and very focused, featuring racy iron and savory notes coursing alongside the core of black currant and black cherry fruit. The fresh finish keeps everything in lockstep. Well-built. Score range: 94-97"</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The deep garnet-purple colored 2016 Grand-Puy-Lacoste gives up pure kirsch and red and black currants with violets and baking spices. Medium-bodied, firm and grainy, it's very expressive with good concentration and length."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"It has an extraordinarily pure bouquet with blackberry, briary, touches of pencil shaving and cedar aromas-- quintessential Grand-Puy-Lacoste, basically. The palate is medium bodied with very fine tannin. Gone are the days when this Pauillac was as hard as nails for the first decade. The tannins are nowadays much finer, and the acidity lends this tension and plenty of freshness. There is an effortless quality to this Pauillac with wonderful length and such finesse on the finish that you immediately want to go back and re-taste it. Like so many others, this improved with aeration, gaining ever more harmony and precision. What a brilliant wine. It is classic Pauillac to its core."</i> - NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"A neoclassical edition of Grand-Puy-Lacoste, this has cedar, graphite, deeply integrated cedar and spicy-oak influence and a very fresh array of ripe blackberries, dark cherries and cassis. The palate is so seamless. It builds beautifully and delivers a long, seamless array of perfectly ripe dark fruit, swathed in fine, firm, ascending layers of tannins. As good as we have seen in recent vintages, this is a star of the vintage. Try from 2024."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p>

Reviews *"This is all about the finish with a sweet-tobacco, berry and light milk-chocolate character. Full body, very fine tannins and a juicy finish. Love the intensity and finesse at the end. Lots of energy. Could better the exquisite 2014."*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Juicy and jammy, this wine is already smoothly textured. Its black fruits add a fresh touch and give a ripe feeling. Likely to develop quickly the wine will be ready to drink from 2022."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Barrel Sample. This wine is generously structured and rich, with firm tannins. It does have a hint of bitterness, though it should integrate quickly. It will be a fine wine from about 2027 on. (RV)"

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Mildly toasty, certainly ripe, nose with good appeal and freshness. Great balance and splits the difference between austerity and simplicity. Nice wine, with Pauillac inkiness. But a little pinched on the end for the moment."

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot. Harvested 28 September to 13 October. 45 hl/ha."

Very dark crimson. Very ripe and fresh. Pretty glorious expression of the vintage on the nose. Slightly dry finish but really very energetic and may be a fairly good buy. Slightly dry on the end – very British claret!"

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"This has a punch of mouth-filling dark cassis fruits and lots of complex tobacco, liquorice and truffle. Layer upon layer of flavour is joined by tight tannins, but with air and life in between. It's young and well balanced, easily equal to the power of a Lynch Bages or a Pichon Baron. I loved it en primeur and love it again here. Consultant is Eric Boissenot, technical director is Christel Spinner. Drinking Window 2024 - 2038 (JA)"

- JA, Decanter.com

"This has a spicy, almost toasted edge, perfectly balanced depth and a retraction of the tannins through the mid-palate that springs back again on the finish. This vintage sees the addition of 15 new small 80hl stainless steel vats in the cellar, allowing for more precision during fermentation. There is plenty of hidden power going on in this wine, with a tannin index of 79IPT, similar to the 2010. The silky tannins make this large-structured wine deceptive right now, but it is extremely well handled, particularly in the teasing out of mineral, wet stone touches flicking through the dark berry fruits. I expect it will close down a little more than some this year."

- JA, Decanter.com

"Another super effort here. The wine is spicy, long, fresh, character driven and concentrated. There is a depth of flavor, ripe tannins and all the tobacco, cedar and ripe red, juice filled fruits you need. The wine is firm, and joyous."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Full-bodied, concentrated and loaded to the gills with its black fruits, cedar chest and tobacco nuances, the wine is powerful, refined and long. There is density that never feels heavy due to all the freshness and sweet fruits. This has the potential to be the best vintage of Grand Puy Lacoste produced yet."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Dewy and succulent cassis, smoke, tobacco, cedar wood and blackberry aromas pop up with just an easy swirl or two. Refined, polished, elegant with a medium-bodied personality, ending with loads of sweet, dark fruit. This vintage from GPL has the structure to age, coupled with the silky mouth feel that its loyal tasters enjoy. The wine was made from a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot. The harvest took place September 28 to October 13."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews

"It's up against stiff competition, but this is my pick of the Pauillac Fifth Growths in 2016. It's a perfumed, high-toned, structured red with savoury, fine-grained tannins, a core of piercing cassis and wet stone-like flavours and haunting sweetness. Bravo! 2024-38"

- TA, timatkin.com

"Xavier Borie consistently makes one of the finest and most classic of all Pauillac's here. Frequently GPL is a match for the top names of Pauillac but is usually cheaper en primeur. Much of the fruit is used to make the second wine - Lacoste Borie. This is a very popular Chateau at Farr Vintners - both with our customers and staff. The 2016 is a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon and 21% Merlot, which was harvested 28th September to 13th October. 60% of the production was deemed of high enough quality for the Grand Vin, and this selection shows. Deep in colour with spice black fruits, cedar and tobacco on the nose. There is an overlay of toasty, sweet new oak to the ripe core of cassis and black cherry fruit. The tannins build through the mid palate but due to their refinement they are seamless and provide a smooth, velveteen texture to the wine. Enduring black fruit is complemented by notes of cinnamon, cedar and allspice on the long, harmonised finish. A superb effort for the vintage."

- Farr Vintners

"The nose has a mix of rich black fruits the palate fleshy and supple concentrated black cherry and cassis the tannins firm discreet and integrated. Underlying mineral freshness balances bright at the back the finish is fragrant a hint of spice, stylish and long. 2025-41"

- Derek Smedley MW

"The 2016 Grand-Puy-Lacoste has a superb, vibrant, tobacco-infused bouquet that soars from the glass; it is extremely well defined and classic, just as you expect from this Pauillac. The medium-bodied palate displays succulent tannin that hides the backbone supporting this wine. It is more approachable than the Grand Puy Lacoste of a decade ago yet retains the essence of its terroir. This is one of the most elegant GPLs of recent years. Drink 2023-2055."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2016 Grand-Puy-Lacoste is a powerful, exciting wine. That is the good news. But readers are going to have to be patient, as the 2016 shows very little of the upfront appeal that was so evident when it was in barrel. In the glass, the 2016 is sumptuous, vivid and incredibly detailed, with generous super-ripe red fruit and floral notes that develop with time. The wine's concentration and vibrancy lead me to think it will enjoy a very long life. Wow! Drink 2024 - 2041."

- AG, Vinous

"One of the successes of the vintage, the Grand-Puy-Lacoste is fabulous. Racy, forward and incredibly inviting, the 2016 makes a strong first impression and then never lets up. Sweet red cherry, blood orange, white pepper and floral notes give the wine its brightness and aromatic nuance. Deep, fleshy and utterly exquisite on the palate, yet light on its feet, the 2016 exudes finesse. The flavors are remarkably vivid, but in the end, it is the wine's sublime balance that places it among the highlights of the vintage. Don't miss it!"

- AG, Vinous
