

Château Grand Puy Lacoste 2017

CSPC# 871458

750mlx12

13.3% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% 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. Cellar Master: M. Philippe Gouze. Consultant oenologist M. Eric Boissenot
Vintage	While the 2017 vintage began with a very dry winter, temperatures were very mixed, with a very cool January and a rather mild February. Thus, bud break began around March 20th for the earliest Merlots. By mid-April phenological stages were on average ten days ahead of 2016, similar to the vintage of 2014. The last two weeks of April saw two episodes of heavy morning frost in the Bordeaux vineyard. However, thanks to the proximity of the Estuary, our red grapes were not affected and produced satisfactory yields. The first flowers appeared ten days earlier than the average dates recorded over the past twenty years, and flowering and fruit set occurred in very favourable conditions. Early summer saw high temperatures while water stress became apparent, notably on the gravelly soils. However, this phenomenon was attenuated with the return of rain at the end of June. The summer of 2017 particularly dry, relatively sunny but quite cool despite sporadic peaks in temperature, confirmed that the vintage would continue its early development through to harvest.
Vineyards	The vines of this Fifth Growth chateau stretch across 58 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 from September 15th to 29 th , 2017.
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	The assemblage of Grand-Puy-Lacoste 2017 is dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon (80%) permitting our terroir to express the character and charm of our splendid Cabernets. The wine is a deep, bright ruby color. The bouquet releases scents of ripe red fruit, violets, and spices. This is complimented by an attractive fresh minerality. On the palate, the attack is precise, clean and long, with its ripe and melted tannins. Overall, this is a wine of great balance, allying charm, elegance and freshness; it is aromatic, with an aftertaste of considerable purity. This 2017 breaks the mould of vintages ending in "7" as it demonstrates the richness of expression of the wonderful terroir of Pauillac, combining balance, refined fruit and ripe tannins.



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 2024-2038
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2020</p> <p>91-94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2018</p> <p>90 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2020</p> <p>93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2020</p> <p>92-93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2018</p> <p>91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 2020</p> <p>17.5 points - Tom Parker, JancisRobinson.com - October 2021</p> <p>17 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2018</p> <p>94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018</p> <p>93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2018</p> <p>90-93 points - Derek Smedley, MW - May 2018</p> <p>93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p>89-92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2018</p> <p>18.5+ points - Matthew Jukes, MW - April 2018</p> <p>95 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - February 2022</p> <p>92 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022</p> <p>16.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2018</p> <p>18.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"A taut and minerally version, defined by a chalky underpinning that harnesses the core of damson plum, bitter cherry, and red currant fruit. Streaks of cedar, chestnut and bay leaf mark the finish. Shows the austere, iron-driven side of Pauillac. Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Best from 2023 through 2038. 10,000 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"This is crunchy and lively, offering a bright herbaceous note mixed in with red and black currant fruit. There's good iron-driven cut on the finish. A bit backward, but the pieces are there for a textbook, mineral-driven Pauillac."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Composed of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Merlot, the 2017 Grand-Puy-Lacoste was aged in French oak barriques, 75% new. Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, it opens with notes of fresh black raspberries, kirsch and crushed black and red currants with hints of spice box, fragrant soil and potpourri. Medium-bodied, the palate is frisky and fresh with a moderate level of approachable, soft tannins and compelling restraint on the finish. Drink 2020-2030."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Aromas of fresh raspberries with some lemon peel and fresh herbs follow through to a full to medium body. Fresh herbs and graphite highlight the wine. Chewy finish. Needs time to soften. Better after 2022."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Very pretty and focused with a tight and refined palate of juicy tannins and a savory finish. Elegant."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"This is a stylish wine that displays plenty of black currant fruit framed by fine tannins. Medium bodied, it has a juicy core that is already attractive, but for best enjoyment, drink from 2023. Roger Voss."</i> - RV, Wine Enthusiast</p> <p><i>"Tasted blind. Deep ruby colour. Deep liquorice and black fruit on a cool, brooding nose. This follows on the palate, which shows a prominent cedar note and intense, fresh black-fruit character. The tannins are rich and muscular but well defined. Tightly wound and full of potential, this is graceful and structured with a savoury, long finish. Drink 2028 – 2045."</i> - TP, JancisRobinson.com</p>

Reviews

“Colour of blackcurrant juice. Fresh and peppery with lots of pure, fine cassis on the nose. Dark and pure. Silky, moreish, not that much more intense than the second wine Lacoste Borie but a little more persistent and more depth in the middle. Fine tannins, soft and supple. Fresh on the finish. Pure and persistent in its relative delicacy. Drink 2025-2037.”

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

“These guys often over-deliver in challenging years and have done so yet again. As you would expect in a vintage that has produced such an excellent Lacoste Borie, this GPL is exceptional, a real success that's juicy and carefully extracted. It has weight and impact, with a Pauillac tannic hold and presence. It's one of my wines of the vintage, and a must buy. The balanced, sculpted, juicy black fruits fully deliver personality and signature style. Harvested 15-29 September, yielding 45hl/ha. 80% new oak.”

- JA, Decanter.com

“A fresh, lively, vibrant, and classically styled wine with bright, crunchy cassis, citrus, tobacco, earth, and cranberry notes. The wine is medium/full bodied and seems to be holding much of what it has to offer in reserve. This is one of the few wines this year which will need cellaring before it is ready to drink. Made from blending 80% Cabernet Sauvignon and 20% Merlot, it reached 13.3% alcohol. The harvest took place September 15 to September 29.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Ripe fruit the nose has a rich mix of flavours the palate depth with ripe cassis some black cherry. There are enough fresh fruits to balance but the ripe fruit the bitter chocolate is there at the back enriching the finish. Drink 2025 – 2038”

- Derek Smedley MW

“The 2017 Grand-Puy-Lacoste was bottled at the end of June. Brambly black fruit, wild hedgerow, cedar, and a touch of wild mint. This is classic "GPL". The palate is very well balanced with brine-tinged black fruit and a fine bead of acidity. It is beautifully focused with a refined, lightly spiced finish. You have to give this wine time in the glass because it really starts to "flow" after 5-10 minutes. Excellent.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2017 Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste is an 80/20 split of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot that was harvested between the 15th and 29th of September. Yields were a solid 45 hectoliters per hectare. This medium-bodied, fresh, lightly textured 2017 is a perfect example of the vintage with its charming, ripe, yet more mid-weight style. Classic Pauillac cassis, lead pencil, leafy herbs, and gravelly minerality all emerge from the glass. It's going to benefit from just short-term cellaring and keep for a decade or more. Barrel Sample: 89-92.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“This has a thrilling nose which, in spite of the weighty dominance of Cabernet, is perfectly red-fruited and sonorous. This is a sleek thoroughbred with power and grace, and it is layered with flashes of both red and black fruit on the palate. The finish has more muscle and more tannin looms as the flavour senesces on the back of the palate and the result is a game of flamboyance and reticence warning the drinker that while the flavour entices you in, there is also the need to exercise restraint because this is a not a wine for drinking in the short term in spite of its apparent precocity. Throughout the flavour there is levity, and this is what makes this powerful wine such an unequivocal success. François-Xavier Borie agrees with this character. He smiled – ‘don't forget we are serious’.”

- MJ, matthewjukes.com

“Deep dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, delicate lightening of the edges, relatively closed, piquant red berries, nuances of green tea, Vervaine and tree resin. Soft and comparatively generous approach, powerful body, mild acidity, very fine tannins, very silky and fresh, polished, and long-lasting, lots of juice, slightly salty background.”

- Falstaff Magazine