

Château Haut Batailley 2019

CSPC# 866098

750mlx6

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot

Appellation

Pauillac

Classification

5th Grand Cru Classe in 1855

Website

<http://www.chateau-haut-batailley.com/en/#/en/>

General Info

The Cazes family, which heads Château Lynch-Bages, are the proud new owners of Château Haut-Batailley (since March 2017), an 1855 Grand Cru Classé in Pauillac owned previously by the Des Brest-Borie family. Both families have had strong roots in the Pauillac and Médoc landscape for generations.

Château Haut-Batailley, acquired by the Brest-Borie family in the 1930s, was until now managed by François-Xavier Borie. "We are delighted that Château Haut-Batailley has been accepted into the fold of the Cazes family, who are committed to continuing the work undertaken at the estate. We're confident that they will maintain the identity and character of the property," said François-Xavier Borie.

Winemaker

Cellar Master: M. Philippe Gouze

Vineyard Manager: M. Antonio Flores

Consultant Œnologist: M. Eric Boissenot

Vintage

After quite a mild winter, the first leaves appeared on the vines at the beginning of April. Despite a very unusual cold snap in May, which slowed cane growth for some days, flowering ensued very quickly and uniformly. Then summer settled in, and the first grapes began changing colour on July 23rd. A few much-awaited showers quickened the pace of this initial colour change and by the end of July, in just a few days, ripening was well underway. Harvest time approached in very promising conditions with the fruit presenting lovely crispness.

On September 23rd in brilliant sunshine, the Merlot grapes were picked followed by the Cabernet Franc. In the very last days of September the "real" Medoc harvest began with the first crates of the princely Cabernet Sauvignon being picked.

On October 9th, when the last Petit Verdot had been brought in, the secateurs were put away and tranquility returned to the vines.

Vineyards

Château Haut-Batailley today comprises some 40 hectares, 22 hectares of which are already planted. In terms of grape variety, the property has 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc. Its vines are on average 35 years old.

The property also has its own technical facilities, in perfect working order. At 22 ha it is a relatively small property in Medoc terms and combines a fine blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc to create a wine which has fully deserved reputation for expressing the power and punch of the very finest Pauillac's with a degree of sweetness, freshness, and subtlety. In recent years the estate has been beautifully managed by Francois's Grandson Francois-Xavier Borie, whose style and philosophy has been very much the same as the one he has at his own property Ch Grand Puy-Lacoste, to allow the vineyard to express itself to a maximum, little interference and let nature take its course to allow each year to express its own personality.

Harvest

The harvest began on 23rd September.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

The vatting period lasts around 3 wks. Alcoholic fermentation occurs during eight to ten days, with temperatures held around 28°C (depending on the quality of the vintage). A soft extraction is achieved by daily pumping-over of the juice which aids fermentation and the gradual development of phenolic components in the wine. Maceration continues for around ten days. During this time, each vat's temperature is strictly controlled and adjusted according to its grapes' potential. This is followed by the malolactic fermentation which stabilizes the wine and reduces its acidity, enhancing its round and supple character. Aged in 60% new French oak.

Tasting Notes

Jean-Charles described 2019 as "Blue Velvet", a vintage that offers "a beautiful complementarity between fruity Merlots, rich in sugar... and dense, well-structured, very fresh Cabernets". The 2019 is the most attractive Haut



Tasting Notes	Batailley made under the new regime. It is reminiscent of Xavier Borie wines with its clear, transparent core of cassis and stony minerals, but there is a bit more polish; the fruit is a little more luxuriant and velvety in texture. There's a great sense of poise and energy: classical, balanced, rather handsome Pauillac that will reward patience. A very smart Haut Batailley.
Serve with	Chateau Haut Batailley is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Haut Batailley is also good with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta.
Production	Approx. 9,500 cases annually
Cellaring	Drink 2023-2038
Scores/Awards	<p>93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p>93 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>93-95 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p>95+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - March 2022</p> <p>95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p>95-96 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p>95 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022</p> <p>94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p>93-95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p>93-95 points - Farr Vintners - May 2020</p> <p>94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p>93-95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>93-95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p>93-95+ points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020</p> <p>90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020</p> <p>95 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020</p> <p>93 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p>16.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Offers red and black currant, plum and blackberry preserve flavors that are both lush and brambly in feel, a contrast that plays out on a finish in which a bolt of cast iron and a twinge of warm earth check in. Features a lovely savory/cedar echo at the very end, giving it a slight throwback feel. Best from 2023 through 2038."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"A fine effort from this cru classé located between Lynch-Bages, Forts de Latour and Pichon Lalande, the 2019 Haut-Batailley offers up aromas of minty berries, loamy soil, violets, cedar, and spices, followed by a medium to full-bodied, succulent palate with a pretty core of fruit, lively acids, and powdery structuring tannins. This is the second vintage produced by the Cazes family since their acquisition of the château in 2017. - Drink 2025-2050."</i> - WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Displaying a deep garnet-purple color, the 2019 Haut-Batailley opens with fragrant notes of blackcurrant cordial, blackberry preserves and redcurrant jelly, leading to suggestions of fragrant soil, dried mint, woodsmoke and Sichuan pepper. Medium-bodied, the palate delivers impactful, vibrant black fruit flavors with a racy line of freshness and finely grained tannins to support, finishing long with lots of savory and mineral sparks. 2025 – 2045."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"A blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Merlot, the 2019 Haut-Batailley is deep garnet-purple colored. It has a pretty, floral nose with hints of lilacs and lavender over a core of warm cassis, blackberry pie, and wild blueberries with suggestions of chocolate cherries and truffles. Medium-bodied, the palate sings of juicy red and black fruits with a lively backbone and plush tannins, finishing long and perfumed."</i> - LPB, Wine Independent</p> <p><i>"This is linear and tight with blue fruit and fine tannins. Some graphite and lead pencil, too. Medium to full body with very Pauillac sensibility. Delicate, yet structured. Restrained. Needs time to open. 76% cabernet sauvignon. Try after 2026."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p>

Reviews *“Plenty of blueberry and chocolate aromas and flavors. It’s full and chewy with a powerful finish. Tar and graphite at the end. Solid core of fruit and tannin here. One of the most structured I have had from here. Cazes family making the difference.”*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“Heady and seductive on the nose with touches of graphite, blackcurrant, and cherry fruit. This is lovely, you get a sense of understated power, smooth and layered on the palate with wood spice, liquorice, menthol and gravel/wet stone notes and a core of ripe black fruit. Tannins are supportive - supple and softly gripping giving this a structured frame and drive the flavour from start to finish. Still very much taught and knitted together, just beginning to show what it's made of. One to buy and age. Great typicity. Tasted twice. Drinking Window 2027 – 2044.”

- GH, Decanter.com

“The third vintage under the Cazes ownership, and happy to see that they maintain a style that is distinct from Lynch Bages, one than emphasizes the elegance that Cabernet Sauvignon can give over the power and concentration of Bages. This has a touch of rusticity on the tannins, with an unfussy elegance, some delicious juicy cassis fruits, and a ton of Pauillac character. Drinking Window 2024 – 2037.”

- JA, Decanter.com

“Enjoyable, balanced, smoked earth, black tea and slate, grilled black fruits that have plenty of Pauillac character. Not as muscular as its sibling estate Lynch Bages, but this is a delicious wine that has years ahead of it.”

- JA, Inside Bordeaux

“Full-bodied, concentrated, powerful, tannic, and backward, this is going to need time in the cellar before it reveals all of its character. But when it does, expect to revel in layers of ripe, bold, dark currants, blackberry, espresso, bitter chocolate, savory herbs, and tobacco. The wine is rich, full, concentrated, and chewy and should really start showing well with 7-9 years of cellaring. Drink from 2029-2060.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Showing a rich color, the wine pops with cedar, tobacco leaf, peppery herbs, blackberries, and black currants on the nose. Full-bodied, with loads of that stern/regal character that defines Pauillac, the wine end with a creamy textured finish resonating with sweet, ripe, black currants.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2019 is a blend of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon and 24% Merlot, will be aged for 14 months in 60% new French oak, and has an abv of 14%. Deep purple in colour. The Cazes influence is evident here, with deep rich cassis on a brooding and powerful nose. The palate is equally rich, with bold and grippy tannins intermingling with blackcurrant and graphite. The flesh builds with sandalwood and cedar on the back end to a long and spicy finish. Impressive and age worthy.”

- Farr Vintners

“The 2019 Haut-Batailley, matured in 60% new oak for 14 months, has a tensile, well-defined bouquet, linear and focused (much more so than last year from barrel), featuring blackberry, briar, that same tincture of blood orange and a hint of cedar. The palate is silky-smooth on the entry and very cohesive and harmonious. Though there is a little new oak to be subsumed, that will happen over the next 2–3 years. Showing great depth and composure on the finish, this is a wonderful Pauillac that will give 30 or 40 years of drinking pleasure.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2019 Haut-Batailley, now of course part of the Cazes family's portfolio, is nicely detailed on the nose with blood orange and even a touch of marmalade tincturing the black fruit. The palate is very intense on the entry, the fruit remarkably pure with fine-grain tannins. This is a Haut-Batailley with ambition: very harmonious with touches of white pepper and cedar towards the finish. Is this a harbinger for things to come? I hope so.”

- NM, Vinous

Reviews

“The 2019 Haut-Batailley is wonderfully resonant and deep in the glass Rose petal, lavender, spice and new leather overtones are nicely layered into a core of inky crème de cassis fruit. A wine of real substance and power, Haut-Batailley has quite a bit of potential. 93-95.”

- AG, Vinous

“Slightly darker fruited and denser than the more ethereally styled 2018, the 2019 Château Haut-Batailley offers up a gorgeous array of red and black currants, black raspberries, tobacco, and flowers, with more classic lead pencil and tobacco notes emerging with time in the glass. Balanced, medium to full-bodied, and concentrated, it has ripe, supple tannins, terrific mid-palate density, and a great finish. The quality continues to soar at this estate under the helm of the Cazes family and this is a gem of a Pauillac well worth seeking out. Give it a few years and enjoy over the following two decades.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“The Cazes family has turned out a beautiful 2019 Château Haut-Batailley. It has the pure, clean fruit and aromatics of the vintage as well as medium to full-bodied richness, plenty of cedary spice and tobacco notes, ripe yet certainly present tannins, and a great finish. It's largely in the same classic, elegant, concentrated style of the 2018 and is going to reward 5-7 years of bottle age.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate ocher edge. Delicate herbal spice, dark berry confit, a hint of liquorice and cassis, mineral touch. Juicy, dense, fine extract sweetness, supporting, ripe tannins, heart cherries on the finish, very good length, definite potential for development.”

- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is elegant, racy and offers delicacy, power full of subtlety, a beautiful definition, harmony as well as sense of the place. It reveals notes of pulpy/fresh blackberry, small ripe red berries, small notes of hot gravel associated with small touches of violet, iris, liquorice stick as well as very fine hints of nutmeg and grey pepper. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, finely tight and offers a juicy/acidulous frame, precision, tension, finesse, gourmandize, deepness, a good freshness, a good freshness as well as a fine creaminess. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy cassis, crushed blackberry, small notes of violet associated with touches of raspberry, crushed gariguette strawberry, fresh gravels as well as fine hints of toasted, chocolate, caramelized almond, and an imperceptible hint of fresh nutmeg. Tannins are racy. Good length.”

- Vert de Vin
