

Château Lynch Moussas 2020

CSPC# 721265

750mlx12

13.5 % alc./vol.

Grape Variety	72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot
Appellation	Pauillac
Classification	5th Grand Cru Classé - classified in 1855
Website	https://www.lynch-moussas.com
General Info	<p>The Château was founded in the 18th century by a member of the Lynch Family. We can trace the origin of the "Moussas" name back to the 16th century. In 1919 the property was purchased by the Castéja family, at that time also owner of Duhart-Milon and later was inherited by Emile Castéja. Philippe Castéja, Emile Castéja's son, has been in charge of the property and its vineyards since. Château Lynch-Moussas is a typical Pauillac exhibiting a dark colour, a fruitful bouquet, a lot of softness with ripe tannins.</p>
Winemakers	Philippe Castéja. Axel Marchal, Doctor of Oenology.
Vintage	<p>2020, third Musketeer of that extremely successful vintage trilogy 2018, 2019, 2020. Its characteristics are a precocious vintage with severe dry periods. As a result of a rather dry and mild winter bud burst was two weeks early compared to 2019: the first buds came on 26 March for the Merlots! This precocity was pushed forward with the fall of the first flowerhoods on 9 May. Then, the first half of May was relatively fresh and rainy. Veraison began on 6 July and lasted 3-4 weeks for some parcels. During this same time, from 18 June to 12 August, so during almost 2 months, we suffered from a lack of water with high temperatures, so the vegetative cycle slowed down. Like for most of top level vintages, the whole crop took place in September. We began harvesting Merlots on September 14th and finished them on September 22nd; as well as Cabernets Sauvignons on September 24th until September 30th. Superb Merlots, top quality Cabernets give this great vintage its roundness, richness, and elegance that represent the essence of the Pauillac terroir and the greatness of its grapes.</p>
Vineyards	Chateau Lynch-Moussas' wine originates from the estate's 57 hectares of vineyards morcellated through the commune of Pauillac. The soil for these vineyards is typical of the Pauillac consisting mostly of gravel over a limestone subsoil. The vines are divided between Cabernet Sauvignon (72%) and Merlot (25%).
Harvest	Hand harvested. We began harvesting the Merlot on September 14th and finished them on September 22nd; as well as Cabernet Sauvignon on September 24th until September 30th
Vinification/ Maturation	15 to 20 days of fermentation in thermo regulated stainless steel tanks. Aged in French oak barrels (about 60 % of new barrels) for 18 months.
Tasting Notes	"This color with its superb slightly purple hues, aromas again of black fruits which show this very ripe wine, then after in the mouth we will see the body of this wine blossom and discover this phenomenal length really characteristic of this year where both the Cabernet Sauvignons and the Merlots were able to give their full expression".
Winemaker's Notes	The 2020 Chateau Lynch-Moussas reveals an intense color adorned with purplish tints. The aromatic bouquet unveils expressions of blackcurrant and black fruits which harmonize with a hint of licorice. The 2020 Chateau Lynch-Moussas is a greatly elegant wine with a smooth attack and an elongated structure. The charm and delicacy of its style balances wonderfully with the expression of the power of its terroir.
Serve with	Risotto with ceps, leg of lamb, beef fillet, doe stew, mutton chops. Enjoy with short ribs and creamy polenta, braised lamb shank with rosemary or thinly-sliced London broil.
Production	Approx. 15,000 cases are made annually.
Cellaring	Drink 2023-2038
Scores/Awards	<p>87-89 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2021 94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2021 94-96 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2021</p>



Scores/Awards **16.5 points** - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com (score only) - April 2021

91 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2021

93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2023

92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2021

91 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2021

91-93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2021

91-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2021

91 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2023

90-92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2021

91 points - Wilfred Wong, Wine.com - January 2023

90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2023

91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2021

91-93 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2021

88 points - Andreas Larsson, Tasted (score only) - January 2021

92-94 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - July 2021

92-93 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2021

17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021

Reviews *"The 2020 Lynch-Moussas is composed of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon and 28% Merlot, with an alcohol of 13.5%. It is being aged for 12-14 months in French oak barrels, 60% new. Medium to deep purple-black colored, it gives up notes of crushed blackcurrants, fresh blackberries, and Bing cherries, with touches of bay leaves, tree bark and graphite. The medium-bodied palate has well-managed tannins and just enough freshness for the subtle black fruit and dried herbs flavors, taking a slight dip in the mid-palate and finishing a tad abruptly."*

- LPB, Wine Advocate

"This is a very structured red with lots of blackberry, currant, walnut, and graphite. Full-bodied and long. Nice chewiness. 72% cabernet sauvignon, the rest merlot. Barrel Sample: 94-95."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This is an estate that really has been turned round by the Castéjà family. This new vintage shows fine potential, a balance between fruit and the rich texture of ripe Cabernet Sauvignon. The wine will age seriously well."

Barrel Sample: 94-96."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Rich smoky notes, coffee, mocha, raspberry and black cherry, grilled cedar - a little short on the finish. Tasted several times, and the oak is pretty dominant, it struggles to allow enough gaps through the structure to let the fruit out. A yield of 42hl/ha. 60% new oak."

- JA, Decanter.com

"Classic, firm, and fresh with a solid core of sweet, chewy, dark cassis, tobacco, cedar, and a touch of spearmint which adds more freshness. The fruits are refined, crisp and juicy, with a firm, bite of Cabernet Sauvignon and tobacco leaf on the palate and in the finish. Drink from 2026-2050."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Tobacco leaf, cedar, spice, cigar box and red berries are just great on the nose. Medium/full-bodied, refined, crisp and juicy, with round tannins, concentration, and a firm, fresh, bite of Cabernet Sauvignon and tobacco leaf on the palate that stays with you through the savory finish. Give this 7-8 years in the cellar and enjoy it over the following 2 decades with pleasure."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2020 Lynch-Moussas has a well-defined bouquet of blackberry, wild strawberry, cedar and freshly rolled tobacco scents. Like the Batailley, the aromatics display an appealing marine scent. The palate is medium-bodied with a patina of oak to be subsumed on the entry. But it feels cohesive and well defined, delivering good weight and a fresh, slightly peppery, graphite-tinged finish. This is a fine Pauillac and continues Lynch-Moussas's fine run of form."

- NM, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2020 Lynch-Moussas is a racy, plush Pauillac. Super-ripe red fruit and soft, generous contours give the 2020 its decidedly flamboyant personality. Blood orange, cedar, tobacco and mint open with a bit of time in the glass. Lynch-Moussas remains quite extroverted in feel.”*

- AG, Vinous

“Darker currants, ripe cherries, saddle leather, cedar pencil, and smoked tobacco notes all emerge from the 2020 Chateau Lynch-Moussas, a medium-bodied Pauillac offering ripe, supple tannins, terrific overall balance, integrated oak, and outstanding length. A charming, balanced, incredibly satisfying 2020, it will evolve nicely for 15-20 years. Best After 2023.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“An incredibly classic Pauillac, the 2020 Château Lynch-Moussas offers medium-bodied aromas and flavors of darker currants, smoked tobacco, lead pencil, and gravelly earth as well as loads of texture, bright tannins, notable balance, and a clean, classy style. It’s not massive, by any means, but given its purity of fruit as well as its tannins, it should easily evolve for two decades.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“The 2020 Château Lynch-Moussas deftly combines richness with style. TASTING NOTES: This wine offers aromas and flavors of savory notes, earthiness, a chalkiness. Try it with pan-fried flank steak and baby bok choy. (Tasted: January 27, 2023, San Francisco, CA)”

- WW, Wine.com

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate edge lightning. Black forest berry confit, blackberries and cassis, tobacco nuances, underlaid with delicate herbs and spices. Medium body, red cherries, round, integrated tannins, subtle sweetness, already harmonious, a versatile food accompaniment.”

- Falstaff Magazine

“Dry wood, some peppery notes, sour cherry, and red fruit. Medium weight with a firm tannic backbone, slightly restrained style for long ageing.”

- AL, Tasted.com
