

## Château Carbonnieux 2016

CSPC# 832573

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Cabernet Franc
<b>Appellation</b>	Pessac-Léognan
<b>Classification</b>	Grand Cru Classé
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://carbonnieux.com/our-wines/?lang=en">https://carbonnieux.com/our-wines/?lang=en</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Chateau Carbonnieux has a long and extensive history in the Bordeaux wine appellation. In fact, it is one of the oldest estates in the entire Bordeaux wine region with a history dating back to the 12th century! The original chateau was first constructed during the years when the 100-year war was taking place. This is easily noticed when looking at the unique design that includes a myriad of historical features from the time period.</p> <p>Jumping ahead to the modern era for Chateau Carbonnieux, after World War 2 ended, Chateau Carbonnieux was in poor condition. By that time, only 29 hectares of vines were remaining. The original chateau had been uninhabited since the First World War and was also in bad shape.</p> <p>The wine making equipment was in even worse condition. After the Perrin family, headed by Marc Perrin, purchased the property, they renovated the entire estate and replanted a large portion of the vineyard. The cellars were renovated in 1990. Today, Chateau Carbonnieux is managed by his two sons Eric Perrin and Philibert Perrin.</p> <p>Chateau Carbonnieux has nice neighbors. In fact, they are situated close to Chateau Haut Bailly and Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte. The gravel based, Pessac Leognan vineyard of Chateau Carbonnieux is planted to red and white grapes. Interestingly, Chateau Carbonnieux is one of the few Bordeaux vineyards that continue maintaining plantings of all 5 red Bordeaux wine varieties.</p>
<b>Sustainability</b>	Plot management with environmental-friendly farming
<b>Winemaker</b>	Consulted by Denis Dubourdieu
<b>Vintage</b>	Vintages both exceptional in quality and generous in quantity are very rare. Yet 2016 is one of them. By good luck, the flowering in Pessac-Léognan took place in good, dry weather, despite the abundant spring rains. The long, hot, sun-drenched summer had remained reasonable temperatures. Thanks to water reserves built up during wintertime, the vines surprisingly did not suffer from the long absence of summer rain. The harvest started on a date perfectly within the norms with vines in an exceptionally good state of health thanks to the dryness during the summer. The picking of the reds could be spread out in time so as to benefit from the generous rays of sun at the beginning of autumn.
<b>Vineyards</b>	Environmentally friendly farming for sustainable agriculture (Member of the 1st ISO 14001 certified Bordeaux EMS Association). 1 organic control plot. Guyot-poussart and cordon pruning. Disbudding/de-leafing/hand green harvest. Planting density: 7200 vines/ha. Plot management in the vineyard and the cellar.
<b>Harvest</b>	Hand picking only. Berry selection while picking and twice on sorting tables. Merlot from 28/09 to 5/10. Cabernet Franc on 6/10 and Petit Verdot on 10/10. Cabernet Sauvignon from 7/10 to 18/10.
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	Fermenting in temperature-controlled stainless-steel vats (3-4 weeks) Ageing in oak barrels - 16 to 18 months (35-40% new oak)
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Chateau Carbonnieux red has for centuries been a great classic from the region of Bordeaux. With its high standard of quality, it is the smooth result of an excellent blending of grape varieties from this region. The vinification, both modern and traditional of red wines, is carried out by slow and gentle extraction in order to preserve the roundness of the wine and the mineral features of the soil. The tannins are well balanced and silky in harmony with red fruits (blackcurrant,



<b>Tasting Notes</b>	<p>blackberry, cherry...) and reveal toasted notes from ageing in the finest quality French oak barrels. Only the very best batches tasted are selected for the final blending of Chateau Carbonnieux red wines.</p> <p>The colour has both a deep and shimmering intensity. The nose is a very subtle mix of black fruits, spices and empyreumatic notes. The attack on the palate is silky, delicate, smooth. The mid-palate is full-bodied, structured, and concentrated. The pleasure rises to a crescendo throughout the tasting and finishes with a remarkable length on the palate. 2016 is definitely in the big league!</p>
<b>Serve with</b>	<p>Chateau Carbonnieux is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. The red wine of Chateau Carbonnieux is best served with all types of classic meat dishes or stewed meat, swordfish, tuna fish, cheese, chocolate desserts.</p>
<b>Production</b>	<p>15,000 cases made. 180 000 bottles - 45hl/ha - Bottling May 2018</p>
<b>Cellaring</b>	<p>Drink 2021-2031</p>
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>92 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2019  <b>90-93 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2017  <b>91 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim - November 2018  <b>92-94 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017  <b>94-95 points</b> - James Suckling, James Sucking.com - April 2017  <b>95 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 1, 2019  <b>16.5 points</b> - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - October 2018  <b>92 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2019  <b>92 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017  <b>92 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2019  <b>92 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2019  <b>88 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2019  <b>87 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017  <b>93 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019  <b>92 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019  <b>91 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2019  <b>92 points</b> - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - April 2017  <b>92 points</b> - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2017  <b>15.5 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2020  <b>17.5 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2019</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Well-built, with a core of dense plum paste, raspberry reduction and melted red licorice notes framed by roasted apple wood accents and backed by juicy, brambly grip on the finish. Youthfully vibrant and should cellar well in the midterm. Best from 2021 through 2031."</i>  - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Lively, with a bouncy edge to the mix of plum, cherry and cassis notes. A light tarry echo shows on the finish, but this relies more on juicy acidity. Solid length"</i>  - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 Carbonnieux reveals warm black and red plums, blackcurrants and cigar box scents with a waft of crushed rocks. Medium-bodied, fine-grained and with great freshness, it delivers a mineral finish."</i>  - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Carbonnieux has a gorgeous, beautifully defined bouquet with pure black fruit, hints of sous-bois and pressed flowers, the new oak seamlessly integrated. What a nuanced and sensual bouquet! The palate is medium-bodied with plenty of ripe, black, graphite-tinged fruit, supremely well-judged acidity, and a level of harmony that frankly, I have never encountered on a Carbonnieux. This is a brilliant wine from this Pessac-Léognan estate that has threatened to make a wine this good in the past."</i>  - LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

**Reviews** *"Big and juicy red with lots of fruit and tannins yet it's not overdone. Full-bodied, chewy, and intense. Lots of potential here. Better than the 2015? Rating: 94-95."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"Packed with young tannins, this wine shows the structure of the vintage as well as its fresh and perfumed fruit. The combination will develop to produce a restrained and elegant wine. Drink from 2025."*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*"Mid cherry red. Utterly, wonderfully fragrant with raspberry and cassis. So pure you can barely sense the oak on the nose, though it is a little more present on the palate, adding a sweetness and giving the tannins a slightly thicker texture and thus less elegant than I expected from the nose but perhaps it will slim down with time, which it needs. Certainly, fresh on the finish. Drink: 2026-2038"*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

*"A carefully constructed frame makes this a little subdued at this early stage, taking its time to show those subtle, floral-edged and rather lovely blackberry and redcurrant flavours. It's a good wine with impact and personality, and tannins that take hold halfway through, keeping things in place and suggesting plenty of ageing potential. Elegant and attractive."*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*"Succulent, beautifully fragrant and subtly spicy, easy to sink into and will offer many years of pleasurable drinking. Planted to 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot and Carmenère."*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*"This is another Pessac Leognan that rocks in 2016! With a good depth of color, the perfume with its smoky fruits, flowers, earth and tobacco leaf is great. And on the palate, the medium-bodied, refined wine is already easy to drink, leaving you with a core of silky, fresh, gravelly red cherries."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"This is another Pessac Leognan that took a giant leap forward during the barrel aging process. The nose combines smoky fruits, flowers, earth and tobacco leaf. Medium bodied and elegant, the wine is already easy to drink, finishing with its fresh, red cherry core of fruits."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"Medium bodied, elegant and fresh, with a sweet cherry and tobacco profile, the wine has a bright quality to the fruit that you taste and feel in the finish."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"Medium bodied, with forest and leafy notes, smoky, cassis and red berries in the light, finish."*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"The 2016 Carbonnieux has a refined bouquet of brambly black fruit, cedar and subtle bay leaf aromas that gently unfolds in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannin and a crisp line of acidity. Saline and spicy toward the second half, with a feisty but focused finish that lingers in the mouth. Great potential here. A Pessac-Léognan that deserves a higher profile, especially given quality like this."*  
- NM, Vinous

*"The 2016 Carbonnieux has gained tremendous richness and depth with élevage. A whole range of sweet tobacco, menthol, savory herbs, leather and licorice notes flesh out as this powerful, super-expressive wine starts to open in the glass. From barrel, the 2016 was quite gracious, but today, from bottle it is far deeper and richer."*  
- AG, Vinous

**Reviews** *“Notes of red and black currants, truffles, smoked earth, and graphite emerge from the 2016 Château Carbonnieux. Medium-bodied, ripe, with present tannins and good acidity, it has an old-school vibe and is classic Graves. Drink it over the coming 10-15 years.”*  
- Jeb Dunnuck

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