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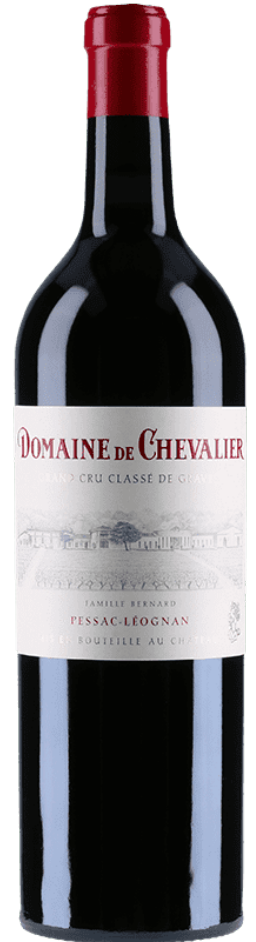
## Domaine de Chevalier 2019

CSPC# 866426

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot
<b>Appellation</b>	Pessac-Léognan
<b>Classification</b>	Grand Cru Classé de Graves in 1959
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.domainedechevalier.com/">http://www.domainedechevalier.com/</a>
<b>Sustainability</b>	This 67-hectare estate in Pessac-Léognan is at the top of its game today, and the 2019 vintage is a striking success. When the Bernard family purchased Domaine de Chevalier in 1983, the vineyards amounted to only 20 hectares: expansion followed in the woodlands (much of which remain) that occupy this site, on the same stony gravel and black sand over iron-rich clay that defines the estate's historic vineyards. It's a cold site in winter, surrounded by trees, but warm in summer, as the stones reflect heat, and the black sands absorb it. Farming is now organic and biodynamic, with experiments with cover crops and unhedged canopies, and drainage to improve more humid parcels. Sauvignon Blanc is planted in the estate's coolest sites, Cabernet Sauvignon on its warmest, and everything else is planted in between.
<b>General Info</b>	<p>The owners of Domaine de Chevalier, the Bernard family, have a long history dating all the way back to the 1155! Documents are available stating that the Count of Angoulême awarded the Bordeaux wine property to Chateau-Bernard for his valour in battle against the English.</p> <p>Domaine de Chevalier in the Graves/Pessac Leognan, appellation, was purchased in 1865 by Arnaud Ricard and his son Jean the Bernard family for 33,000 francs. At the time, the Ricards family were familiar with the Bordeaux wine trade as they worked as coopers, producing some of the best barrels used by many of the best chateau. In 1865, the estate began selling their wine under the Gascon name of "Chivaley". In those days, the 44-hectare property was used for mostly food crops and breeding animals. While there was a tiny Bordeaux wine making operation at the estate, it was not the main interest of the property.</p> <p>Shortly after the elder Ricard passed away, the son discovered the outstanding potential of the terroir and soil at Domaine de Chevalier and transformed it into a full-time vineyard. The name was changed from "Chivaley" to the French "Chevalier". When Jean Ricard died, his son-in-law, Gabriel Beaumartin, took over and managed Domaine de Chevalier for the next 4 decades. At various times the Ricard family owned other top estates in the Graves appellation including Chateau Malartic Lagraviere and Chateau de Fieuzal.</p> <p>When Gabriel Beaumartin died in 1940, no one was interested in managing the estate. After a few years, Claude Ricard, Jean's son, started at Domaine de Chevalier in 1948. He was only 21 years old. Under Claude Ricard, Domaine de Chevalier was included in the 1959 Graves Classification. When Domaine de Chevalier was purchased 1983, Olivier Bernard was not much older at 23 years of age. By the time Olivier Bernard arrived, Claude Ricard had already managed the estate for over thirty years.</p> <p>Domaine de Chevalier is fortunate to have such a fine team to run its affairs. Olivier, whose family business owns the estate, is the outgoing but canny administrator whilst Rémi Edange is hands-on, knowing every vine and every barrel. Whilst their white wines have always been amongst the very finest, the reds were simpler affairs. But from the 1995 vintage onwards greater flair and concentration was in evidence. The quality curve is now further accentuated by the team's bold move to appoint Stéphane Derenoncourt, of La Mondotte fame, as consultant winemaker. Domaine De Chevalier is classified as a Graves Cru Classé.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Rémi Edange. Stéphane Derenoncourt consults.



<b>Vintage</b>	<p>This vintage is characterized in particular by its aromatic intensity, excellent fruit maturity, density, freshness, very elegant tannins in red wines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wet spring, with two frost attacks (April 13 and May 5) contained thanks to the means deployed (wind turbines, candles). Very good vine growth.</li> <li>• Flowering slightly disturbed by weather instability, without preventing a good harvest volume.</li> <li>• An exceptional summer which arrives precisely on the calendar date... and which will last from June 21 to October 15. During this period, we experienced two waves of great heat (June 26-27 and July 22-25)</li> <li>• Expected precipitation, which occurs at strategic times: late July and early August, heavy rains triggered veraison. The vine did not suffer from the drought.</li> <li>• The excellent conditions of September: great weather and, from September 20, small showers that rebalance the sugar /acid potential, perfect the maturity of the skins (aromas, color, tannins) and give the grapes a lot of freshness. All this going hand in hand with rather cold nights. This thermal amplitude is particularly beneficial for the quality of ripening of the fruit</li> </ul>
<b>Vineyards</b>	<p>The 80-hectoliter vineyard of Domaine de Chevalier has 67 hectares under vine. The vines are relatively young due to replanting and the fact that the vineyard has frequently been hit by frost. The vineyard of Domaine de Chevalier is used to produce both red and white Bordeaux wine. For the white Bordeaux wine, 7 hectares are planted to 70% Sauvignon Blanc and 30% Semillon. For the red wine, 60 hectares are planted to 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. The vineyard is planted to a vine density of 10,000 vines per hectare. On average, the vines average 35 years of age. The vineyard management techniques used are sustainable farming methods. Only organic Fertilizers are used, and this is on a parcel-by-parcel basis. Approx. 40-60% of annual crop goes into the grand vin. Domaine de Chevalier has a complex terroir and soil that starts with the forest that surrounds the vineyards three sides.</p>
<b>Harvest</b>	<p>From September 23 to October 13. grapes in baskets, with triple sorting: 1st in the vines, 2nd on the complete bunch on the sorting table and 3rd by optical sorting</p>
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	<p>Vatting gravity without pumping, alcoholic fermentation in stainless steel and coated steel temperature-controlled vats. Maceration for 2 to 3 weeks (30° C. max). Manual Pigeage. Ageing: 18 months (four months on the lees); New barrels: 35%.</p>
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	<p>Intense, fresh, and refined nose, of red and black fruits. The aromas of black cherry, blackberry and blueberry dominate in an atmosphere of both peppery and sweet spices at the same time. Dense, delicate, delicious and energetic palate. Magnificent finesse concentration. Tight and elegant weft. Sweet flavors of ripe fruit are intense, salivating and accompanied by a gustatory complexity very typical of this vintage. Humus, graphite, and licorice. Great overall freshness. Impeccable and harmonious balance between the sweetness and liveliness of the different sensations.</p>
<b>Serve with</b>	<p>Domaine de Chevalier is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Domaine de Chevalier Rouge is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.</p>
<b>Production</b>	<p>10,000 cases made.</p>
<b>Cellaring</b>	<p>Drink 2023-2035</p>
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>94 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022  <b>97 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022  <b>94-96+ points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020  <b>96+ points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - March 2022  <b>97 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022  <b>96-97 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020  <b>96 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 2022  <b>95-97 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020  <b>17.5 points</b> - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - December 2021  <b>96 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022  <b>95 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020  <b>95 points</b> - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022  <b>97 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022  <b>95-97 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020  <b>94-96 points</b> - Farr Vintners - May 2020  <b>95 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022  <b>94-96 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020  <b>97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022  <b>95-97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p>

**Scores/Awards** **97 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022  
**96-98+ points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020  
**94 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020  
**95+ points** - Thomas Parker MW - March 2022  
**94-96 points** - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2020  
**96 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020  
**96-97 points** - Terres de Vins (score only) - September 2021  
**94-95 points** - Vert de Vin - April 2020  
**94-96 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022  
**95-96 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2020  
**18.5 points** - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020

**Reviews** *“Very lush and forward, with a lovely wave of warmed plum reduction, cassis and blackberry preserve flavors. Features a subtle rumble of dark earth and warm stone through the finish, where licorice and apple wood accents also peek in. Delivers spine for form, but this is going to provide its best showing in the medium-term, as the fruit is so precocious. Best from 2023 through 2035. 10,000 cases made.”*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*“The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier is a magical wine in the making, wafting from the glass with aromas of wild plums, crushed blackcurrants and violets mingled with hints of pencil shavings, subtle spices, and coniferous forest floor. Medium to full-bodied, deep, and seamless, with a vibrant core of fruit, beautifully refined tannins, and lively acids, it's exquisitely elegant and harmonious, concluding with a long, perfumed finish. Stylistically, this wine exhibits a much closer affinity with the great Domaine de Chevalier of yesteryear than much of what was produced here in the early 2000s. It's a masterclass in what contemporary Bordeaux can deliver, and worth a special effort to seek out. Drink Date 2029 – 2060.”*  
- WK, Wine Advocate

*“The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier was harvested from the 23rd of September to the 13th of October. The alcohol weighed in at a modest 13%. It is aging in French oak barrels, 35% new, for around 18 months. Deep garnet-purple in color, it shoots from the glass with vibrant, intense scents of warm blueberries, blackberry preserves and fresh blackcurrants plus hints of spice box, violets, crushed rocks, and pencil lead with a hint of menthol. The medium-bodied palate gives an appearance of weight from its sheer energy, offering bags of fresh, crunchy berry layers and a solid backbone of firm, grainy tannins, finishing long and pure.”*  
- LPB, Wine Advocate

*“The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier rouge is made from 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, and 4% Cabernet Franc. Deep garnet-purple in color, it needs a lot of coaxing to unlock notes of warm cassis, crushed blackberries, and boysenberry preserves, with hints of rose oil, cumin seed, and menthol plus a waft of wood smoke. Medium-bodied, the plate is wonderfully elegant, featuring very finely grained tannins and lovely tension, finishing long and minerally.”*  
- LPB, Wine Independent

*“Beautiful, ripe redcurrants, bay leaf, violets, and raspberries on the nose. Full-bodied with firm and very tight tannins that are polished and layered. Crushed stones highlight the beautiful blue fruit. Poised and refined. 60% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot, 6% petit verdot and 4% cabernet franc. Try after 2026.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“The chocolate, walnut, dark-fruit, and stone character is attractive. It's full-bodied and very tight and linear with chewy yet polished tannins and a long, flavorful finish. Lots of intensity and complexity here, as always.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“In this wine, rich tannins are beautifully polished by the 16 to 20 months in wood. The black fruits, from the 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, are structured, giving the wine considerable potential. Still coming into balance, the wine will likely be ready from 2027.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

**Reviews** *“With its finely structured tannins and juicy black currant fruits, this has the potential to be an important wine. The balance between the fruit and structure is already there, promising richness as the wine matures.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Inky crimson. Ripe, rich black fruit, cassis, and black cherry. A slight leafy/herbal note adding freshness. More leafy on the palate but not green or unripe, just very scented Cabernet. Tannins are finely textured, becoming chewy as you taste, but polished. One of the most complete wines tasted so far in this small line-up of Pessac reds. (JH) 13.5%. Drink 2030 – 2040.”*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

*“Herbal notes on the notes, some herbaceous and inviting fruitiness. I just love the pure expression here, the focus is definitely on delicious crunchy fruit, it's forward and expressive, shining quite brightly with the undercurrent of acidity, minty freshness and some chalky minerality. This feels like precise winemaking, good sculpting, and confidence here, it's not trying to show off and instead exudes charm and elegance. Structured and layered with great freshness and charm. It has a gorgeous juicy quality which keeps things lively and refreshing while you know there's depth and power underneath. Will be excellent to age. An absolute crowd pleaser.”*  
- GH, Decanter.com

*“A lovely Chevalier, with rich tannins, juicy cassis and bilberry fruit, sage and pepper spice and a slate finish. Similar in style to warm but well-built years like 2000. Not the power of 2016 but this is an excellent wine, with lots to enjoy. Harvest finished October 12. Drinking Window 2027 – 2042.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*“This is just gorgeous, you see exactly where it is going, with waves of unfussy but powerful black fruit aromatics, a beautiful wine that is full of density and complexity, pared back with restrained cassis and bilberry at this point. Hints of cocoa bean, tobacco, slate, truffle, and smoked earth coming through, that will no doubt build over the next few years in bottle. Tasted twice, two months apart, both times hugely successful, easy to recommend. In organic conversion.”*  
- JA, Inside Bordeaux

*“Elegant and refined, the wine is medium/full-bodied, and quickly focuses you on its core of smoky red pit fruits and berries, espresso, herbs, forest leaf and tobacco. Soft, polished, and fresh, there is length, purity, energy, complexity, and character here in spades which is all wrapped up perfectly with its silky tannins and soft, sexy, harmonious finish. This should age and evolve for at least 3 decades or more. Drink from 2029-2055.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“Dark garnet in color, the wine opens with smoky notes, pure cocoa, hot stones, and dark red fruits. On the palate, this is in contention for the most elegant vintage produced at the property. But do not confuse elegance with lack of depth. The wine is refined, focusing on its purity with silky tannins and a soft, sexy, harmonious finish. This should age and evolve for at least 3 decades or more, though, it will be beautiful with just 8-10 years in the cellar. The Grand Vin was produced from 60% of the harvest. 95-97 Points.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“The 2019 follows in the footsteps of an excellent 2018 that received a potential 100-point score from James Suckling. Deep ruby in colour with a juicy, pure nose of dark cherries and plums that has a mineral, savoury edge. The palate follows, with earthy restraint despite the fleshy dark and red fruits at the core. The oak is smoky but subtle, very much the supporting role to the dense and intense core of fruit. This is what drives the long finish, with the acidity adding a touch of lift to a very fine but already moreish wine.”*  
- Farr Vintners

*“The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier remains a little reticent on the nose at first and takes time to unfurl in the glass (often a good sign, in my book), revealing black fruit, crushed rock, undergrowth and just a touch of brine, perhaps less than in bottle. The palate is medium-bodied, poised, and harmonious, with fine-grained tannins, wonderful mineralité and a gentle build toward the saline finish. It gains weight and cohesion with aeration. A noble Domaine de Chevalier that will age with style.”*  
- NM, Vinous

## Reviews

*"The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier was harvested between 23 September and 12 October, underwent a triple sorting and a 30-day maceration before maturation in 35% new oak. It needs gentle coaxing in the glass, eventually offering broody blackberry, sous-bois, cedar, and light brine scents that are certainly more cerebral than some of its peers. The palate is medium-bodied on the entry with crisp tannins, slightly chalky in texture, fresh and mineral. It is very complex towards the finish with blackberry, sea salt and mineral notes, completing an intellectual Domaine de Chevalier with long ageing potential."*

- NM, Vinous

*"The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier is pure, silky, and exceptionally beautiful. The 2019 is all in reserve today. Sweet red berry fruit, mint, spice, and blood orange lend brilliance to this understated, super-classy Pessac-Léognan red. Lifted floral aromatics and silky tannins grace this exquisite, wonderfully polished wine."*

- AG, Vinous

*"The 2019 Domaine de Chevalier has the potential to be one of the wines of the vintage. Regal and soaring in the glass, with tremendous intensity, the 2019 is pure magic. An exotic mélange of ripe red plum, gravel, spice, cured meats and incense develops with time in the glass. Effortless and wonderfully nuanced, the 2019 is a fabulous wine in the making. Don't miss it."*

- AG, Vinous

*"I loved the 2019 Domaine De Chevalier, which is unquestionably up with the crème de la crème of the vintage. ...it sports a dense purple hue as well as a killer, quintessential Graves bouquet of darker black fruits, scorched earth, truffle, cold fireplace, tobacco, and graphite. More medium to full-bodied on the palate, it has brilliant purity, ultra-fine tannins, flawless balance, and a great, great finish. It's not a blockbuster but has this incredible sense of class, balance, and finesse while being rich and concentrated. It's a gorgeous wine, and wine lovers will adore being able to compare this side by side with the 2015, 2016, and 2018 over the coming 3-4 decades."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*"Its vivid purple color is followed by a classy bouquet of crème de cassis, damp earth, tobacco leaf, and spring flowers. With medium to full-bodied richness, stunning purity of fruit, silky tannins, and a good spice of acidity, this beautiful, classic, quintessential Chevalier will need 5-7 yrs of bottle age yet keep for 4-5 decades."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*"Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, delicate rim lightening. Fine, ripe plum fruit, delicate nougat, black cherries, a hint of orange zest. Elegant, fresh cherries, lively structure, well-integrated, ripe tannins, mineral, and fresh, already accessible, very good length, has development potential."*

- Falstaff Magazine

*"Deep ruby-purple with a restrained, refined nose of red and black fruit together with a deeply mineral, stony edge - quite unique and very enticing. The palate follows, with graphite and savoury spices making for a compact, focused impression. Tightly wound with mouthcoating tannins, this is a Domaine de Chevalier that warrants patience in the cellar. Very pure throughout, showing its greatest intensity on the finish. A wine of great promise but give it at least five years (10 better) before opening. It will age well for decades."*

- Tom Parker MW

*"The nose is elegant, fruity and offers a small power and a finesse of the grain. It reveals notes of lemon, vine peach, small notes of crushed apple associated with very fine hints of jasmine, rose petal, lychee as well as discreet hints of exotic fruits, a racy minerality/terroir as well as a subtle hint of spices. The palate is fruity, elegant and offers a good definition, gourmandize, a fine acidulous frame, a fine tension, precision, and a good structure. On the palate this wine expresses notes of ripe lemon, crushed peach, small notes of pear associated with fine touches of crushed white peach, toasted, almond, small exotic fruits as well as a discreet hint of jasmine, a racy minerality and an imperceptible hint of nutmeg. Good length. A very discreet hint of ripe almond on the persistence. A very discreet tannic hint in the background."*

- Vert de Vin