

Château Haut Bergey 2012

CSPC# 749568

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot

Appellation

Pessac-Léognan

Classification

Grand Vin de Bordeaux

Website

http://composis.aropixel.com/vignobles_garcin/chateau-haut-bergey-index-eng.html

General Info

In the 15th century the “Seigneur de la Louvière” and the “Seigneur d’Olivier” got to work on the reparcelling of agricultural land and so was born “La maison noble de Pontey” today named Chateau Haut-Bergey. In 1700 Sir Jean-François de Cresse, a member of parliament of Bordeaux, took it over and used it as his permanent residence.

By 1772 the estate stretched over 100 hectares of vineyard. A hundred years later, though the vineyard was abandoned and in 1850 a splendid castle was reconstructed becoming a leisure residence. It was in the middle of the last century the castle returned to the wine growing roots of the past.

In March 1991 Sylviane Garcin-Cathiard acquired Chateau Haut-Bergey.

Granddaughter of a wine merchant and a successful businesswomen, her approach has always been that of a connoisseur appreciating great wine.

It was love at first sight and the promising charm of Chateau Haut-Bergey encouraged her into a large renovation project whilst respecting the former traditions.

Commitment to quality is her main principle.

Vintage

After a chaotic beginning of the vine cycle: early bud break and blockage in April (cold and wet); the vine found back a proper growing path with the beautiful weather conditions from May to September. However, the delay and heterogeneity undergone because of this difficult start of the vine cycle was to be felt all year long. Once more, the reality of great terroirs, the efforts made in the quest for the balance between the plant and the soil, the vitality of the soils and the low yield reduced greatly these gaps and induced a slow yet complete maturity of the grapes.

Vineyards

The 28.5 hectares are located in the heart of the village of Leognan, a leading area of Graves region. At the end of the Tertiary era and during the Quaternary the changing meanderings of the Garonne left a large variety of gravel, pebbles and other stones that constitute the complexity of this exceptional ground. In springtime the temperature of soil rises constantly. During summertime and especially in September the gravel reflects the absorbed heat onto the bunches of grapes, thus improving the process of ripening.

The vineyard of Haut-Bergey is well exposed to the south and south-west on slightly sloping grounds, so ensuring natural drainage. The subsoil is composed of clay and chalk streaked with iron-bearing parts that also contribute to the uniqueness and personality of the wines of HAUT-BERGEY. The vineyard of Chateau Haut-Bergey Comprises 26.5 hectares of red grapes and 2 hectares of white grapes. 54% Cabernet Sauvignon / 46% Merlot

Harvest

The grapes are transported in small boxes of 20 kg in order to avoid them being squeezed or oxidation.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

Stainless steel tanks of 80 to 120 hl. New french oak barrels: 50% for 16-18 months
The preparation of the wine is done in a traditional way: every parcel of vines is separately prepared in small vats of stainless steel or wood with integrated hot and cold regulation. The wine is aged in oak barrels for between 16 to 18 months according to the vintage.

Tasting Notes

Attractive, slightly perfumed nose of pure cassis. Lovely purity on the palate with more cassis, blueberries, cherry with integrated spice. Very polished wine with a creamy black currant puree complexity. It’s like a mini Domaine Chevalier.

Production

10,000 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2015-2030



Scores/Awards **89 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2015
90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013
90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #218 - April 2015
90-93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #206 - April 2013
89-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2013
90 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 1, 2015
91-93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 10, 2013
88-91 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - April 2013
16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2013
16.25 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2013
82 points - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2013
88 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
90 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 15, 2015
89-91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 13, 2013
85-87 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2013
82 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - April 2013
88-90 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only)
14.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)
16 points - Gault & Millau (score only)

Reviews *"Solid and direct, with a core of crushed plum and blackberry fruit lined with mesquite, tobacco and singed anise notes. Juicy acidity fuels the finish. Drink now through 2019. 10,000 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Showy style, with lots of ganache and dark toast leading the way, backed by ample plum sauce, fig paste and currant confiture notes. Long, charcoal-framed finish has plenty of heft. Not shy in style, this has density and drive. Score range: 90-93"
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The Garcin family has done a fabulous job in Bordeaux with their other estates, such as Barde-Haut and Clos L'Eglise in Pomerol, as well as with the nearby luxury wine from Pessac Léognan – Branon. They produce this wine from gravelly and sandy soils, of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot. Attractive, soft cassis and tobacco-leaf notes mixed with licorice and spice are present in this dense ruby/plum wine. It is medium-bodied with soft tannin and a relatively smooth, velvety texture, finish and opulence, giving this wine an up-front appeal, although it should age nicely for 12-15 years."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Another brilliant effort from proprietress Helene Garcin, the opaque ruby/purple-colored, medium-bodied 2012 Haut-Bergey reveals lots of smoky barbecue, forest floor, black currant and damp earth notes in a surprisingly dense, concentrated, positive, complete style. An outstanding mid-palate and length make for an impressive showing. This 2012 should drink well for 12-15 years"
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted from a barrel sample at en primeur. A blend of almost 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Merlot, this has expressive ripe Cabernet on the nose that lends it an almost Pauillac-like minty personality. It is well defined and shows good vigour. The palate is medium bodied with dusky, earthy tannins and the finish is just a little dry and austere. Still, this is a fine, classic, medium-term Haut-Bergey. Tasted April 2013."
- NM, Wine Journal

"This is a tough wine, but one with enough weight and fruit about it. It is dense and packed with potential of good things. Big fruits, big tannins and a dark structure all promise good aging with a serious, firm aftertaste. Drink from 2020."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"91-93. Barrel sample. This full-bodied wine is soft and warm in style, yet exhibits some crisp, fresh fruitiness and minerality behind its ripe, rich profile. "
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

- Reviews** *“Deep red-ruby with purple highlights. Complex aromas of cassis, violet and spices, complemented by sweet oak and lifted by a peppery menthol nuance. Not a fleshy wine but juicy, firm and aromatic, with lovely balancing acidity enlivening the clean blueberry and blackcurrant flavors. Finishes with sweet tannins and very good length and balance. I really like this wine's light touch, especially compared to its more "important" sibling Branon, which struck me as over-extracted for such a light vintage.”*
- ST, International Wine Cellar
- “Very pale. Lean and clean. Some palate weight and interesting salivating richness too. Nice blend of the two styles. Not a heavyweight. Clean and fresh. 16.5”*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “Ripe cassis fruit with leafy overtones, nice overall smoothness, good wine for the id-term.”*
- SS, Decanter.com
- “Darker red in colour, no en primeur Left Bank violet rim. Very open nose, richly fruited, highly marked by smoky, oak with a streak of sweet rhubarb. Quite high alcohol, and this is a little short. It is not faulty, there are no obvious faults at least, although perhaps just masking the fruits. Lacks definition. 82 / 14.75. Fair.”*
- JA, The New Bordeaux
- “The espresso bean, truffle and cherry tones in the nose are followed by a medium bodied, soft, forward wine with a kiss of smoke, oak and black cherries in the finish that can be enjoyed in its youth.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Silky, polished textures with smoky, ripe fruits, vanilla and espresso bean notes, with an open, inviting personality are found in this wine. 89-91 Pts”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Mid depth; lifted oak influenced nose; black fruits and spices; little Magrez like [don't necessarily mean this as a criticism]; layers and polish to the nose; some pretty fruit but lots of oak currently disjointed the palate; makes it finish chewy and angular. Plenty of fruit if the palate settles but will always have a twist of tannin at the end. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot 85-87 Tasted Monday April 8, 2013 at Chateau Olivier's Pessac-Léognan tasting”*
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com
- “A tannic red that will require some time in bottle before the flavours come to the fore. There are black fruits and savoury herbs lurking in the background along with freshness. Moderate length. Tasted in: Bordeaux, France. Maturity: Young. (11-Apr-2013)”*
- JCL, asianpalate.com
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