

Château Haut Bergey 2018

CSPC# 785921

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	42% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 12% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Pessac-Léognan
Classification	Grand Vin de Bordeaux
Website	https://www.haut-bergey.fr/vins-eng.html
General Info	<p>In the 15th century the “Seigneur de la Louvière” and the “Seigneur d’Olivier” got to work on the re-parcelling 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In March 1991 Sylviane Garcin-Cathiard acquired Chateau Haut-Bergey. Granddaughter of a wine merchant and a successful businesswoman, her approach has always been that of a connoisseur appreciating great wine.</p> <p>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.</p>
Winemaker	François Prouteau, winemaker
Vintage	<p>2018 Pessac Leognan is the product of a challenging growing season. Like the rest of Bordeaux, the vintage had an auspicious start as the vineyards were underwater. It was not just the non-stop rain that went on for months.</p> <p>There were hailstorms to contend with as well. And if that wasn’t enough, the devastating mildew attacks hit hard, especially in organically farmed vineyards. However, it is important to note that mildew was much more prevalent in the south, in the Graves appellation.</p> <p>Fortunately, by the middle of summer, everything changed for the better. With the gorgeous sunny, warm, and dry weather conditions, the vineyards managed to dry out. In fact, at one point, there was so much water stress due to the dry conditions that young vines in several vineyards were decimated.</p> <p>Several vineyards began to suffer from hydric stress with so little moisture remaining in the soils. Clearly, Bacchus is a fan of 2018 Pessac Leognan because just when it was needed the most, much needed light rains fell the end of the summer, saving the vintage.</p> <p>Following the warm, dry summer, September and October remained hot, dry, and sunny as well, which was perfect for the red wine grapes. The red wine grape harvest started as early as September 13 at some estates. While that’s a little early, the ability to continue picking until the middle of October, allowing estates to produce the wine of their choice. The berries were small, thick-skinned, and intensely flavored.</p>
Vineyards	<p>The 42-hectare vineyard of Chateau Haut Bergey has 40 hectares planted to red grape varieties and 2 hectares of vines cultivated for white wine grapes. This shows a marked increase in the size of their vineyards as they have almost doubled in size over the past several years.</p> <p>For the red wine grapes, the vineyards are planted to 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot, and 1% Malbec. This is a marked change in the vineyard with much less Cabernet Sauvignon.</p> <p>The terroir is mostly gravel-based soil. The vineyards are not contiguous. In fact, they are spread out over the appellation, with various levels and qualities of terroir. Much</p>



Vineyards	of their vineyards are situated in the middle of the small village of Leognan not far from Domaine de Chevalier. The vines are on average, 30 years of age, as many vines were planted in 1989. The vines are planted to a density of 7,150 vines per hectare. The vineyard is farmed using only 100% organic and biodynamic techniques. Haut Bergey earned their certification for being organic in 2017.
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	A wine that is aged with consideration for its fruit. The large sized barrels gently protect the delicate tannins and crunchy fruit that reflect the perfect ripeness of the grape. The delicacy of the red fruits, the depth of the black fruit and the “verticalité”, shape and reflect the perfect balance of Château Haut-Bergey red wines
Production	5,833 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2021-2028.
Scores/Awards	<p>91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2021</p> <p>87-90 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - June 2019</p> <p>85 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2021</p> <p>90-92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2021</p> <p>91-92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2019</p> <p>93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2021</p> <p>92-94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2019</p> <p>16 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - March 2019</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - November 2020</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2019</p> <p>92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019</p> <p>81 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2019</p> <p>88 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - March 2019</p> <p>89 points - Falstaff Magazine - May 2019</p> <p>16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022</p> <p>14.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - March 2019</p>
Reviews	<p><i>“Plump and juicy, with bramble-edged red currant and cherry paste flavors. Nice snap of licorice on the back end along with a touch of singed mesquite. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec. Drink now through 2030. 5,833 cases made.”</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>“Rather taut cedar and tobacco notes run through the core of damson plum and cherry fruit flavors, giving this a slightly austere edge in the end. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec. Score Range: 87-90”</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Haut Bergey reveals a nose of warm cassis, ripe black plums, and blackberry preserves, plus suggestions of cedar chest, pencil lead and dried mint. The medium-bodied palate delivers straightforward, juicy black fruits with just enough freshness and a soft texture, finishing pleasantly savory if a tad abruptly.”</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>“Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Haut Bergey reveals pronounced notes of crème de cassis, stewed plums, and baked blackberries with hints of spice cake, mincemeat pie and bay leaves. Full-bodied, firm, and chewy in the mouth, the palate delivers a great concentration of berry preserves layers, finishing savory. Barrel Sample: 90-92.”</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

- Reviews** *“Aromas of black cherry, stewed blackberry, black olive, oyster shell and sweet tobacco. It’s full-bodied with firm, chewy tannins. Intense and creamy with mineral undertones. Try from 2024.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “A linear and fine-grained red with lovely tannins and blackberry and blueberry character. Medium body. Chewy finish. From biodynamically farmed grapes.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “This is sumptuously textured, rich wine with generous black fruits. Its structure and jammy blackberry flavors promise ripeness and richness for the future. With its tannins lying under the fruit, it should develop relatively quickly. Drink from 2024. Editors’ Choice.”*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “92–94. Barrel Sample. This wine has weight and opulence to contrast with the considerable acidity and lemon flavor. It is taut, nervy and shows considerable aging potential.”*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “42% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot; 15% new oak. Barrel sample. Black-cherry colour. Very ripe black fruit lifted but with a hint of Ribena. Dry like dark chocolate on the palate, fresher than I expected from the nose. Tannins are thick and smooth. Dry and just fresh enough on the finish, the tannins fining out at the end. (JH).”*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- “This wine is consistent and usually good value too. It’s deep in colour as it has Merlot, both Cabs, Petit Verdot and Malbec in the mix, and it has lovely juiciness and balance. The palate is intense and powerful but mouthwatering. Blackberry and raspberry fruits abound, and the tannins are just tough enough to give structure but soft enough to let the light in. It’s aged in 300l oak barrels, plus some stainless steel and egg-shaped concrete vats. Certified organic and biodynamic from this vintage (or rather, certification will arrive at the end of the year, so from the 2019 vintage, but also fully practiced for 2018). They made no wine in 2017 so I’m happy to see it do so well this year. Owned by the Garcin family. Drinking Window 2024 – 2040.”*
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Enjoyable, approachable with firm tannins and dark fleshy fruits, with a smoked edge through the finish. This is aged in 300l oak barrels, together with stainless steel and egg-shaped concrete vats. Certified organic and biodynamic as of 2019, so farming fully in this way during the 2018 vintage. Drinking Window 2023 – 2038.”*
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Flowers, cigar box, tobacco, espresso, and black cherries are all over the place. On the palate, the wine readily serves up a concentrated dose of espresso bean, dark cocoa, red and black plums, and leafy herbs. Give a few years for the oak to calm down better integrate and enjoy for about 15 years after that.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Wet earth, vanilla, espresso, tobacco leaf and ripe, juicy black cherries are all over the place. Lusciously textured with sweet plum and cherry notes, the finish blends Maraschino cherries and espresso bean.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle lightening of the edges. Dark berries with a delicate balsamic underlay, a hint of black olives, a hint of dried fruit. Medium-bodied, red cherries, somewhat loose-knit, oranges in the aftertaste, lacking in complexity and length.”*
- Falstaff Magazine
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