

Château Clinet 2000

CSPC# 753460

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Pomerol

General Info

Chateau Clinet is a relatively small property in Pomerol, home of the best Merlots made in the world. Over the last decade or so, it has risen to be amongst the top wines of the region. Château Clinet is located in the heart of the Pomerol appellation, about 40 km from the city of Bordeaux. Posing on beautiful plots of the famous terrace serious Gunz, particularly suitable terroir for Merlot, it is one of the most prestigious areas of the appellation. The estate wines, elegant and intense style parties are now the great wines of Pomerol.

Chateau Clinet once belonged to the Constant Family before it passed to the Arnaud family. The Arnauts had good taste in wine. At the same time, they were also owners of the famed Bordeaux wine property, Petrus. Following the Arnauts' involvement, from 1900 to 1991, Clinet became the property of the Audy family. They were best known as Bordeaux negociant's. When the managing director Jean-Michel Arcaute arrived in the early 1980s, Chateau Clinet began producing some of the best wine in their history.

It was Arcaute's desire for Clinet to return to the previous level of prominence it occupied in the early 19th century. Arcaute began leaf thinning, green harvesting, and more importantly, he strived to harvest fruit that was phenolically ripe. The estate also reduced the amount of cabernet sauvignon vines planted in the vineyards. Clinet is one of the few Pomerol properties with a large percentage, (Large for Pomerol) of cabernet sauvignon vines.

In 1991, the chateau was sold to Gan insurance. Arcaute remained the director of the estate. Clinet was bought by Jean-Louis Laborde in late 1998. Tragically, Arcaute died in a boating accident in 2001. Today, the estate is managed by the young Ronan Laborde. Laborde could have been a competitive marathon runner if he was not a wine maker. Michel Rolland consults this Bordeaux wine property. Clinet has been improving slowly but steadily since the Laborde family purchased the estate. 2008 was a big jump in quality and their 2009 Bordeaux wine is even better!

Vintage

A rainy spring and a summer that started off badly, but then the sun came out and stayed until late July. The result was very healthy grapes packed with tannins. The wine confirms the quality of this vintage, which reveals excellent Merlots and Cabernet Francs.

Vineyards

Only 9 hectares under vine, but the vineyard is located at the highest point of the Pomerol Plateau on the famous Gunz gravel terrace, origin of the appellation's most prestigious crus. 85% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Cabernet Franc, this wine has an average age of 35 years.

Harvest

Hand harvested by hand. Yield 40 hl/ha

Vinification/

Maturation

Vinification takes place in wooden vats and stainless steel with thermo micro-oxygenation. 5 weeks maceration with vigorous pumping over. Malolactic fermentation in the bottles. Aged for 22 months in 100% new oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

In 2000, Clinet returned to the lofty level of its late 1980's vintages. This wine has a deep, dark red colour. The nose is very fine and intense, with notes of small dark berries. The mouth seems round & very ripe, with excellent fine tannins and a smooth, rich length. Dense & fine at the same time, this is a very beautiful Pomerol.

Production

2,330 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2007-2020

Scores/Awards

96 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003

95-100 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001

93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010



Scores/Awards **92 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003
90-92 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002
89-91 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 2001
91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011
92 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - September 2010
88-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - November 2004
90 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2003
16.5 points - Decanter.com - April 2010
91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
88 points - Wine & Spirits Magazine (score only)
16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)
15 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
1 star - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2004

Reviews *"Chocolate and berry, with mineral and cream. Full-bodied, with a wonderful velvety, caressing texture and a long, long finish. Wonderfully balanced and generous. Best Clinet I have ever tasted. Best after 2010. 2,330 cases made"*

- JS, Wine Spectator

"Great concentration to this wine. Black color, with amazing aromas of raspberry sauce, currants and flowers. Full-bodied, with wonderful silky tannins and a long finish. Perhaps the greatest Clinet ever. Score range: 95-100."

- JS, Wine Spectator

"Beautiful aromas of plums, soy, black currants, black raspberries, espresso, and spring flowers jump from the glass of this perfumed, dense plum/ruby/purple-tinged Pomerol. Medium to full-bodied and pure with sweet tannin and impressive extract, it will benefit from 2-3 more years of bottle age, and should last for an additional two decades."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted four times from bottle (two were corked), this wine is somewhat monolithic, but there is a lot going on, hence the high score. Its youthful disjointedness is certainly a thing of the past, as the wine now exhibits a saturated ruby/purple color and a pure nose of Asian spices intermixed with smoky black currant, raspberry, and blueberry notes with some wood in the background. The wine is full-bodied, pure, sweet, and dense, with a multi-layered texture. There is plenty of tannin in the finish, but it is largely concealed by impressive quantities of extract and fruit. Certainly this is the finest Clinet made under the relatively new administration of Jean-Louis Laborde. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2020+."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Revealing more symmetry and less disjointedness than it did last year, the medium to full-bodied 2000 exhibits a dense ruby/purple color as well as a smoky perfume filled with new oak, Asian spice, plum, fig, black currant, and barbecue scents. There is terrific fruit purity along with outstanding depth, ripeness, and moderately high tannin in the finish. Although the tannin is less astringent than last year, it remains firm and noticeable, a characteristic many 2000 Pomerols exhibit. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2020+"

- RP, Wine Advocate

"The 2000 Clinet possesses a saturated ruby/purple color, a masculine, muscular, medium to full-bodied style, hard tannin, sweet, concentrated fruit, good purity, and a disjointed, jagged personality. It will require patience. Anticipated maturity: 2004-2020."

- RP, Wine Advocate

Reviews *“Tasted blind at Bordeaux Index’s Clinet vertical. A first bottle tasted blind was found to be out of condition, a second (tasted non-blind) has a ripe, floral bouquet with luscious dark cherry, black plum and black olive aromas with prominent new oak. The palate is full-bodied with dense, sinewy tannins, notes of spice, mulberry, cassis and vanilla with just a hint of mushroom towards the finish. My main criticism is that it is not a joyful Pomerol – it lacks just a little joie-de-vivre and for want of a better word...passion. Tasted February 2011.”*
- NM, Wine Journal

“Tasted blind at Bordeaux Index’s 2000 tasting in London. This is developing some secondary characteristics on the nose, touches of leather and mushroom interwoven through those black fruits, lending it a quasi Rhone-like character. Good definition though. The palate is full-bodied, weighty tannins, very backwards at first and only reluctantly opening up. Rounded and smooth texture, yet it is missing some personality at present. Sweet and plum-like towards the finish. This is a Clinet that exceeded my expectations. Drink 2011-2030. Tasted March 2010.”
- NM, Wine Journal

“Coarse and lacking harmony at en primeur. Then at the MW tasting in November 2004. An overt prune and raisin nose more like an over-ripened Napa than Bordeaux. The palate is rich and decadent with moderate acidity and pronounced new oak. Lush blackberry and cassis. Very New World in style. Again, it would be charm those that seek a New World-style wine but Clinet could make a much better wine if the reined in that new oak. Drink from 2010.”
- NM, Wine Journal

“Dark red, but more brown than ruby. Roasted, wild aromas of game, truffle and stewed tomato. Slightly savage flavors of gamey red fruits, coffee, cedar and spices; sweet and super ripe but with adequate supporting acidity. More pliant than it appeared to be a year ago from barrel. Surprisingly subtle on the firm back end, yet the notes of cedar and coffee seem rather evolved. Perhaps best suited for drinking over the next ten years.”
- ST, International Wine Cellar

“Full colour, mature rim, concentrated rich, almost sweet fruit, robust and open but acidity and tannins bring balance. Drink up to 2015.”
- Decanter.com
