

Château Nénin 2006

CSPC# 749531

750mlx12

13.98% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

76% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Pomerol

Website

http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/nenin-chateau_nenin_vins.html

General Info

Chateau Nénin has been owned by the Delon family (owners of the Second Growth Chateau Leoville Las Cases) since 1840 and lies in Pomerol, just outside the village of Catusseau on the south-western slopes of the highest plateau. The chateau sits in a 14-acre park which is rather unusual in Pomerol as the wine estates there tend to be made up of a patchwork of smaller properties. The oenologist at the chateau is Jacques Boiseenot who oversees wine making at no less than four out of the five Bordeaux First Growths. Nénin is considered to be a top Pomerol and has long been a favourite of the British Royal Family.

Vineyards

The 62-acre vineyard of Château Nénin lies on gravel and sandy soil over a limestone bedrock and the grapes planted are 70% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon.

Harvest

The harvest is by hand, as you would expect, with the yields limited to around 30-35 hl/ha in most vintages (although as high as 59 hl/ha in 2004) by early pruning and then green-harvesting.

Maturation

Malolactic fermentation is in vat, in a dedicated room as mentioned above, before tasting, blending and transfer into oak during the winter months after harvest. Aged for 18 months in 20% new barrels.

Tasting Notes

With a fine nose, touched with eucalyptus and roasted coffee beans, and a rich, dark palate of blackcurrant robed in firm but ripe tannins, this is the most appealing and approachable wine made at this property for some years.

Cellaring

Drink 2016-2030

Scores/Awards

91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2009
89-91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2007
91 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #181 - February 2009
91 points - Neal Martin, RobertParker.com - May 2016
88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 30, 2010
91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2009
89-91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2007
90 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2009
88 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2009
17+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2007
90 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - February 2016
92 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
88 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2009 (score only)
88-89 points - Falstaff Magazine - May 2007 (score only)
16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine - June 2007 (score only)
17.5 points - Gault & Millau - June 2010 (score only)
15.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
16 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only)
1 star - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2010

Reviews

"Bright crushed berry, chocolate and licorice aromas follow through to a full body, with ultra-refined tannins and a long, polished finish. There's a lovely texture to this wine. Best after 2013."
- JS, Wine Spectator

"Shows pretty soft tannins, with ripe fruit. Full, round and fruity on the finish. Balanced and refined. Score range: 89-91"

- JS, Wine Spectator



Reviews *"Tasted at the château and then blind at Farr Vintners' tasting, the 2006 Nenin is actually exactly the same blend as the 2005, but I prefer this vintage. There is more freshness on the nose with redcurrant, cranberry, cedar and sous-bois aromas, dried herbs in the background. The palate is fresh on the entry with fine, supple tannin. There is good grip in the mouth, pencil shavings tincturing the black fruit with a satisfying, graphite-tinged finish. This is one of the few wines where the 2006 is clearly superior to the 2005 and it comes recommended."*
- NM, Wine Advocate

"The finest vintage since 2000, the 2006 Nenin comes across as a classic Pomerol with lush kirsch liqueur, mocha, mineral, and floral characteristics. Made in a muscular, rich, full-bodied style with moderate tannins as well as impeccable purity, texture, and length, it should drink well between 2012-2025."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted blind at Southwold '06 Bordeaux tasting. The Nenin '06 has a deep broody nose of blackberry, fruitcake and a touch of spice. The palate is tannic, brutish at the moment, but decent weight, rigid tannins and then it mellows into a honeyed, slightly oily-textured Pomerol over 10-15 minutes in the glass. I would cellar this for another 5-6 years. Tasted January 2010."
- NM, Wine Journal

"Bright crushed berry, chocolate and licorice aromas follow through to a full body, with ultra-refined tannins and a long, polished finish. There's a lovely texture to this wine. Best after 2013."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Shows pretty soft tannins, with ripe fruit. Full, round and fruity on the finish. Balanced and refined."
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"There is great depth of fruit here, combined with the velvet textures that come from ripe Merlot. At the same time, this wine has a structure at its heart surrounded by that generous, delicious, blackberry fruit flavor."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Good bright ruby-red. Dark fruits, bitter chocolate, minerals and violet on the lively nose. Dense, chewy and rather serious, with sweet, slightly medicinal dark berry flavors complicated by a note of leather. Surprisingly pliant for such a brooding wine. Finishes with fairly fine-grained, broad tannins."
- ST, International Wine Cellar

"76% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc, including 17% press wine. Only 20% new oak. 13.98%. Like Las Cases, this went into barrel early and therefore tastes especially gorgeous already. Mid crimson. Introvert nose with some complexity. Round and mellifluous - again the tannins are of a quite different quality from most Pomerol's. Very supple. Nice freshness - much livelier than many earlier vintages of Nénin with real lift and souplesse. Congratulations! Very grown up. Briary but interesting and round and potentially long lived, I think."
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"The fruit is fairly open on the first nose, get a touch of rusticity, we are less buttoned up than in some of the more polished wines, letting a little more natural feeling in. Overall this is a pretty expression of black fruits, and the tannins are a little down and dirty. Enjoyable, well balanced, there is alcohol but the fruit has been well extracted to counter it. Ready to go, have it with food, don't expect the most sophisticated glass you'll ever see, but thoroughly enjoyable. 70% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon."
- JA, Decanter.com
