

# Château Pétrus 2005

CSPC# 750191

750mlx1

13.5% Alc./Vol.

SOLD OUT

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**General Info**

95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc  
Pomerol

The rare visitors who reach to find the domain are often surprised to find a smaller, chalet type building, rather than an impressive chateau, representing what has become the "king of Merlot wines". Contrarily to Haut-Brion and Lafite, Petrus is not a historical growth of Bordeaux, but it is without any doubt the most beautiful oenological success of the 20th century. This property of 12 hectares, which was presented by Madame Edmond Loubat to the English at the occasion of the marriage of Elisabeth from England, made a further step towards international glory under the impulsion of Jean-Pierre Moueix who bought parts in 1964, and of the magician-oenologist Jean-Claude Berrouet. Chateau Petrus culminates at 130 feet on the plateau of Pomerol.

During the 19th century, the domaine belonged to the Arnaud family. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Arnands founded the "Societe Civile du Chateau Petrus", the shares of which Madame Loubat began to acquire in 1925. By the end of World War II, Madame Loubat was the sole proprietor of Chateau Petrus. At this time the establishment of Jean-Pierre- Moueix, a company of wine merchants from Libourne, had the monopoly for its distribution. In 1961, Chateau Petrus went to Madame Loubats nephew and niece: Madame Lacoste and Monsieur Lignac. Since then, Jean-Pierre Moueix has bought Monsieur Lignac's shares.

Jean-Pierre Moueix, 1913-2003, passed away the weekend of March 29-30. A noble and erudite man, he single-handedly established the reputation for Pomerol. Founding his negociant firm in Libourne in 1937, he developed a marketplace in Belgium and northern Europe for many of the area's greatest wines. His success led to the purchase of many of the better vineyards, most renowned of which were Trotanoy (1953), La Fleur-Petrus (1953), Magdelaine (1954), and Petrus, partially owned until its outright acquisition in 2002.

Under the direction of Jean-Pierre's son, Christian, and their oenologist, Jean Claude Berrouet, Petrus receives the care of a pampered child.

**Vineyards**

Pétrus' soil has a 60 cm deep layer containing clay and sand in ratio 90:10 on its upper part. This kind of surface is only to be found at Pétrus and no other places in Pomerol! Subsoil is "crasse de fer" and clay. It can barely surprise anyone, that Merlot has a smashing time here, because growing conditions at Pétrus are just perfect for this grape variety. Petrus' vineyard is 11,5 ha big, planted with 95% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, vines are on average 35 years old and wine is kept for 20 months in 100% new barrels. Pétrus' technical staff headed by well-experienced oenologist Jean-Claude Berrouet, stays firmly on traditional vinification without looking with curiosity to modern wine-acrobatics within the technical remedies, and plays it safe by rarely taking any form for risk. Christian Moueix has fullresponsibility for Pétrus.

**Harvest**

The harvest is by hand, and such is the size of the vineyard it may be finished within two afternoons, after the morning dew has evaporated. If the moisture is more than the sun can handle it has been known for the vines to receive a blow-dry from a hovering helicopter.

**Maturation**

The grapes are fermented in cement vats and the wine is aged in 100% new oak barrels for 22-28 months. It is bottled unfiltered.

**Tasting Notes**

Petrus 2005 is oily, intense, with great balance and a deep aroma and marked tannins.

**Production**

2,300 cases made

**Cellaring**

Drink 2020-2050+

**Scores/Awards**

**100 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2008  
**95-100 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - June 30, 2006



**Scores/Awards** **96+ points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #176 - April 2008  
**98-100 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #170 - April 2007  
**96-100 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #164 - April 2006  
**97 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2009  
**88-89points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2006  
**97 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - April 2006  
**100 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 1, 2008  
**95-97 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 20, 2006  
**96 (+?) points** - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2008  
**17 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - February 2009  
**18.5 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2006  
**19.5 points** - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - November 2009  
**19.5 points/4 stars** - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2006  
**97-98 points/19.25 points** - Jean Marc Quarin - October 2010

**Reviews** *"A sleeping giant. Dark ruby in color, showing aromas of blackberry, cèpe and green olive, with a hint of mineral. Full-bodied, with ultrafine tannins and a super caressing mouthfeel. Turns to coffee, dark chocolate and berry. Chewy yet balanced. Very, very long in the mouth. The finish is absolutely breathtaking. Best after 2013."*  
 - JS, Wine Spectator

*"Astounding. This is wonderfully concentrated with fabulous fruit, chocolate and berry character. Full-bodied, with chewy tannins and a long, long finish. My head is spinning. This could be 1989 in the remake. 100 points?"*  
 - JS, Wine Spectator

*"Inky/ruby/purple-colored with a classic, but tightly wound bouquet of vanillin, cedar, roasted herbs, mulberry jam, black cherries, licorice, and graphite, the full-bodied, powerful, tannic 2005 Petrus is a super-concentrated, backward wine meant for five decades of aging. As excruciatingly tannic as some of the northern Medocs, it requires at least 15 years of bottle age. Anticipated maturity: 2020-2050+."*  
 - RP, Wine Advocate

*"The uncontested star of Pomerol, there are 2,400 cases of the 2005 Petrus, which appears to be the finest wine made at this estate since the 1998 ... and that's saying something. It boasts an inky/blue/ruby/purple color along with an extraordinary bouquet of sweet mulberries, black cherries, cassis, vanillin, and spice box. While powerful and full-bodied with high tannin, it displays no aggressiveness or austerity. This massive, rich, super-intense Pomerol will be at its finest between 2018-2050+. It is another brilliant achievement for Christian and Jean-Francois Moueix."*  
 - RP, Wine Advocate

*"Proprietor Jean-Francois Moueix told me this wine reminds him of the 1947 Petrus. Production in 2005 (2,300 cases) was about half of what could be produced, and the resulting wine should last for a half century or more. A dense purple color is followed by a promising nose of sweet black and red fruits interwoven with pain grille, mineral, licorice, and mocha-like characteristics. This full-bodied, powerful, exceptionally pure, multilayered effort is a bigger, fuller Petrus than the 2003, and easily as structured as the 2000. Only time will tell whether it will turn out to be as complex and noble as the 1998. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2050+."*  
 - RP, Wine Advocate

*"Tasted single blind at Southwold. Normal service is resumed after a questionable bottle after bottling. Tasted blind, this has a deep, broody nose, hoisin, dark plum, manuka honey and lavender. It certainly has an ethereal sense of delineation. Flamboyant and ravishing, redolent of Tertre-Roteboeuf. The palate is full-bodied, tannic, immense depth with thick saturated tannins: a meaty edge towards the grippy finish. This is a broody but talented baby...be its guardian! Drink 2015-2030+ Tasted January 2009."*  
 - NM, Wine Journal

*"Open knit savoury nose with black truffle and lavender notes. Medium-bodied with slightly coarse tannins and racy acidity. A bit hollow mid-palate with sturdy herbal finish. Foursquare. Good but not Petrus-quality."*  
 - NM, Wine Journal

**Tony Kokoroyannis:** Nth AB:  
**Daryl Drainville:** Calgary & Sth AB  
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**Reviews** *“So here we go. The nose is very muted and takes some coaxing before aromas of blackberry, woodland and a little espresso emerge. Superb definition. The palate is more masculine than I expected with some unresolved tannins that will surely meld together with barrel ageing. Stunning focus, as usual less ostentatious than Le Pin. Broody on the finish. A Petrus virgin might wonder what all the fuss is about, but I think there are the components here to make a magnificent wine. But it will need patience. Tasted April 2006.”*  
- NM, Wine Journal

*“As so often, Pétrus has the ability to charm and impress, to seduce and overwhelm. This 2005, one of the greatest vintages from this great chateau, is massive concentrated, with flavors of ripe black figs, chocolate & dark plums. Put that all together & the result is the utmost deliciousness, freshness and elegance. A major wine.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“95-97 Barrel sample. As always, a class apart, Pétrus is dense but elegant. It has a great combination of power and elegance, super ripe fruit and complexity of flavors, but wears all this with such style.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Deep red. Knockout nose combines raspberry, mulberry, coffee, minerals and sexy coconutty oak. Strong yet silky on the attack, then strikingly deep in the middle, with superb inner-mouth perfume to the flavors of boysenberry, minerals and flowers. This boasts palate-staining fruit and grip of steel. A powerfully structured, profound wine with extraordinary energy, from fruit picked very early. This great but backward wine should evolve in bottle for three or four decades.”*  
- ST, International Wine Cellar

*“Sweet, very ripe fruit on the nose. Quite tough acidity and dry tannins on the finish. Hard work at the moment - perhaps beginning to close up. Falls away on the finish”*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*“Just mid crimson. Very embryonic wine with freshness the overriding quality on the nose. Only after that does the opulence reveal itself. Fresh, almost floral, with only medium weight and then, like Trotanoy, a great panoply of flavours on the back palate and an amazing depth of tannin. A wine with very different structure from most bordeaux 2005. Dry finish and all completely embedded at present. Certainly doesn't taste especially high in anything other than tannin, which itself is strictly a phenomenon of the second half of the tasting experience.”*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*“A very solid style on the nose here, dark and concentrated, still showing some primary Merlot character. There is purity to it though, although also a lifted and subtly volatile element, with nuances of balsamic. Intense cherry fruit, cranberry too, with roasted herbs. This all belies a rich, substantial, defined and powerfully tannic palate which has a structure that clearly demands the long haul. Very broad, lightly polished, quite fleshy although nicely styled. There is a prodigious layer of tannin here, which has a massive although velvety feel to it, swimming beneath primary fruit character. Long, tannic, balanced and well defined this is a monumental effort destined to slumber in the cellar for a very long time.”*  
- CK, The Wine Doctor

*“A great Pétrus, certainly the best since 1998. Massive concentration and reined in power. Builds on the palate. Great balance for such a big wine. Drink 2015-2040”*  
- JL, Decanter.com

*“Dark colour, slightly evolved. Fruit laden nose, a touch subdued. Tight entry then revealing rich layers of fat, aromas and fruit over a complex mid-palate. Deep and subtle, yet quite mighty, the wine ends over sumptuously textured tannins. A truly glamorous and enticing fine wine.”*  
- J-MQ