

Château Pétrus 2009

CSPC# 752043

750mlx1

14.2% Alc./Vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

98% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Pomerol

General Info

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 Arnolds 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.

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.

Vinification/

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

The 2009 Petrus is an open wine, rich and spicy, it has flavors of silky, succulent, rich fabuleuse.Puissant, it offers a perfect balance Pétrus is a wine deep and fleshy, whose virtues are harmonized with the supremely time. Charm and power to go well together. It's a real pleasure wine, less complex than some Médoc or Graves, who do not need sophisticated ritual tasting. Its opulent flesh belongs only Merlot. His generosity delights and charms the amateur from the first sip.

Production

2,915 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2016-2050

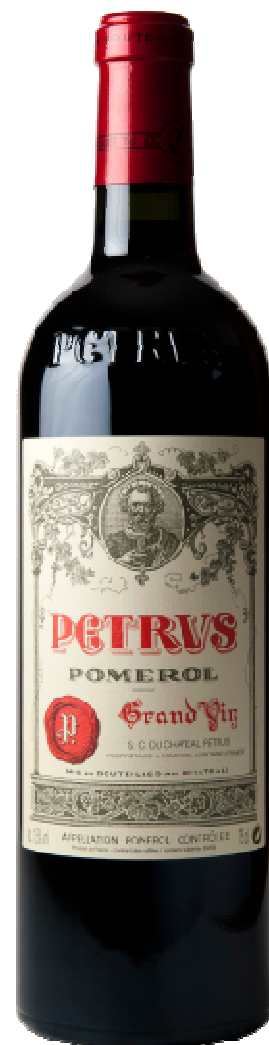
Scores/Awards

99 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2008

97-100 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - June 30, 2006

100 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012

96-100 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010



Scores/Awards **97 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012
94-96 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010
99 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - Web Only 2012
97-99 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 8, 2010
97-100 points - Ian D'Agata, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2010
19 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010
18.5-19.5+ points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - March 2010
19 points/5 stars - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2010
97 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2010

Reviews *"This offers a beautiful balance between its two sides: dark fig, roasted plum and toast flavors versus racy raspberry, cassis and perfumy black tea notes. Silky overall, but with terrific latent grip and a mouthwatering minerality that drives through the finish, pulling out extra fruit paste and charred spice hints. Very, very impressive range. Best from 2018 through 2035. 2,915 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"What a nose this has. I close my eyes when I smell this, and I see perfectly ripe Merlot grapes crushed in the vats. Blackberry, mineral, black licorice, coffee bean and chocolate lead to a full body, with round yet firm tannins and beautiful fruit. The luxurious finish offers a cashmere texture and gorgeous fruit. Rich and subtle. Doesn't appear to be the 2005, but very close. Score range: 97-100"
- JS, Wine Spectator

"An opulent Petrus very much in the stylistic family of the 1990, this 100% Merlot has a dense plum/purple color and a sweet nose of mulberries, black cherries, some subtle toast and licorice as well as a floral element. A wine of great intensity, a multidimensional mouthfeel and full-bodied, stunning concentration, the 2009 Petrus is everything one would expect of it. Given the sweetness of its tannin, much like the 1990, I suspect this wine will always be "open for business," appealing even in its youth. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2050+. This is one of the larger productions of Petrus over recent years, with nearly 3,000 cases of this vintage turned out by proprietor Jean Moueix."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Harvested between September 17 and the beginning of October, the 2009 Petrus reminds me of what the 1982 tasted like at a similar age. Sweet tannins along with extraordinarily pure mulberry and black cherry fruit intermixed with hints of licorice and truffle are found in this 2009 in addition to a voluptuous mouthfeel, an unctuous texture, and, for Petrus, relatively high alcohol of 14.2%. Stuffed, rich, and creamy-textured with a full-bodied, powerful, exuberant personality, it should be approachable in a decade, and last for 40-50 years. (Tasted once.)"
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the property, Olivier Berrouet told me that there is 2% Cabernet Franc in the 2009 Petrus. The nose is very strict at first, but with great purity with blackberry, wild hedgerow, a touch of small dark cherries and with aeration a touch of crushed violet, an almost Margaux-like Petrus. The palate is medium- rather than full-bodied with a spicy entry, touches of black pepper and almost a slight burnt toast accent. There is great backbone here, more masculine than at primeur with an aloof finish that is a little drier than usual. This is a profound, very "classic" Petrus but having tasted it just a month earlier from barrel, could the following vintage being even better? Tasted November 2011."
- NM, Wine Journal

"Tasted at Chateau Petrus. A bright purple colour. The nose is warm and inviting, very concentrated with raspberry, wild strawberry and more glycerine than I have encountered in previous vintages. The palate is full-bodied and very supple in texture, beautifully balanced and very sensuous, more a Petrus of texture than tautness or delineation, building on the palate, very good weight with a touch of citrus peel and a sprinkle of white pepper towards the finish. Long, long length with that hint of Schezuan pepper on the aftertaste. Tasted April 2010."
- NM, Wine Journal

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Reviews *“Amazing aromas of blackberries, dark chocolate and hazelnut. Full body, with super velvety tannins, yet reserved and all in check. Fresh acidity and an orangy, lemon and chanterelle mushroom aftertaste. Then turns to black olives. Minerals and blueberries. Incredible. Still think 2010 is slightly better. Try in 2020.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“97-99 Barrel sample. Rich, sweet and concentrated, with a definite spicy character and sweet, soft tannins. This is richer than many Pétrus in the past, textured like velvet, but with final acidity.”
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“(100% merlot; 14.2% alcohol; 3.8 pH; 40 ha/hl; a 65% selection; 50% new oak) Fully saturated ruby-red. Mindblowingly intense, utterly hedonistic nose redolent of sexy, superripe blueberry and blackcurrant complicated by sweet Oriental spices, cocoa and coffee. Then creamy-smooth and downright voluptuous, with superconcentrated blackberry, blueberry and plum flavors complemented by delicate smoke and flint nuances. The utterly palate-saturating finish features silky-smooth tannins and finishing fruits, spices and minerals that go on for minutes thanks to harmonious acidity. I should note that the strength of finishing minerality goes beyond what I usually associate with this wine. The final wine may contain 1% cabernet franc, but that decision had not been made at the time of this tasting. This wine merits 100 points on the strength of its nose alone.”
- ID, International Wine Cellar

“Started picking 18/9 Sep but waited for rains. Mostly picked 1 Oct. Atypical phenological cycle. More like hot places. Acid higher than for most hot years. Very dark crimson. Very subtle and exciting on the nose. Really rich and round and vibrant. Very sweet and exciting. So luscious. Great richness, A certain gentleness of texture. Exciting. Very well mastered - no excess. Very rich too. The tannins very well hidden. Date tasted 30th March 2010. Drink 2015-2035.”
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Merlot 100% of course, alcohol 14%, pH 3.8. Very well defined and elegant fruit profile here, with a haunting Pomerol spice. A lovely and supple palate, very well defined, fresh and lively fruit profile, with a beautifully pure definition. Red plums and cherry, also slightly floral, with notes of violets, vibrant and lightly crystalline fruit, and light nuances of damson too. Elegant, elegant, elegant. Underneath, however, there is a layer of tannins which is well-controlled, giving backbone and enveloping the wine, but never dominating it. The fruit comes out on top, the harmonious texture too. There is fine acidity at the core, and there is a suppleness of fruit over the top that makes it seem very approachable. But underneath it is a wine of structure and power. It has a fine balance, but when you come to appreciate the structure it is clearly a vin de garde. Great length. From my 2009 Bordeaux primeur assessment. 18.5-19.5+/20 (March 2010)”
- CK, The Wine Doctor

“A powerful tannic frame provides the structure, length and classicism of a grand Bordeaux but there's also a modern purity and freshness of fruit. Winemaker Olivier Berrouet harvested slightly later, at the beginning of October, to guarantee maturity. Dense, complex and profound. Drink 2020-2050.”
- JL, Decanter.com

“Rain in the middle of September was the key to the success of the 2009 Pétrus, according to Jean-Claude Berrouet, enabling the château to avoid water stress in the vineyard. The resulting wine is delicious, showing great finesse though not quite as good as 2005, showing great finesse. The oak is quite prominent at the moment, but this will age well, thanks to its acidity and underlying structure. 15+ years.”
- TA, timatkin.com
