

# Château Vieux Maillet 2009

CSPC# 749562

750mlx12

14.5% Alc./Vol.

SOLD OUT

## Grape Variety

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

## Appellation

Pomerol

## General Info

Vieux Maillet was acquired in 2004 by Hervé and Griet Laviolle, owners of Chateau de Lussac and Franc-Mayne, who built a new winery with stainless steel vats, while embarking on a major program of renovation of the vineyard of 8 hectares (90% merlot, in assemblages) to improve the quality of wines. As of Franc-Mayne and many other Bordeaux properties, techniques for sorting of the grapes are with more sophistication. Despite its hefty (if not exclusive) proportion of Merlot, many people think of wines from this region as separate entities. As one wine aficionado stated recently, "It's not Merlot. It's Pomerol." Despite the region's small size, it contains some of the world's most sought after (and expensive) wines including Pétrus, Le Pin, Lafleur, l'Evangile and Vieux Château Certan. Unlike other Bordelais subregions, there is no system of classification.

## Vineyards

Chateau Vieux Maillet has a range of soils, soil and subsoil very different, spread over Pomerol. The terroir of Pomerol is singular: made up of clay soils, layers of sand, and traces of iron nuggets that give its terroir a unique character. This heavier, colder soil is particularly suited to earlier ripening Merlot, giving its wines more depth and concentration than usually encountered in this grape variety. Cabernet Franc does well on the better-drained plots while Cabernet Sauvignon has difficulty ripening correctly on these soils and thus is not encountered much in Pomerol. Area: 8.65 hectares Grape varieties: Merlot 90% - 10% Cabernet Franc

## Maturation

Barrel ageing is in 80% new oak for twelve to fourteen months.

## Tasting Notes

A better, more pronounced nose with dark chocolate and plum. The palate is more pronounced and just as smooth – nicely done – with a good finish.

## Production

2,000 cases made

## Cellaring

Drink now-2025

## Scores/Awards

**90 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012  
**92-95 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010  
**89-91\* points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010  
**86 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012  
**80-82 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010  
**87-89 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 8, 2010  
**16.5 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010  
**15.5 points/3 stars** - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010  
**87 points** - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010  
**91+ points** - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2010  
**Silver Medal** - Concours General Agricole - Paris 2012  
**Bronze Medal** - Concours des Grands Vins de France Macon 2012

## Reviews

*"This has suave toast, mulled spice, roasted fig and crushed plum and blackberry flavors, all gliding along with silky structure through the finish. Drink now through 2018. 2,000 cases made."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

*"Extremely dark in color, with powerful aromas of blackberry and tar. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, rich finish. Intense and layered. Very well done. Score range: 92-95"*

- JS, Wine Spectator

*"The finest wine I have ever tasted from this estate, the 2009 exhibits a dense purple color, lots of caramelized black currant and cherry fruit, hints of espresso and earth, and a dense, plump, corpulent personality. It is ideal for drinking over the next 10-15 years. (Tasted once.)"*

- RP, Wine Advocate



**Reviews** *“Tasted at the Syndicat de Pomerol. The Vieux Maillet 2009 has a ripe nose of blueberry, orange peel and small red cherries with fine delineation. The palate is ripe and succulent, juicy black fruits, low acidity with a svelte plump finish. Easy drinking but well made. Tasted November 2011.”*

- NM, Wine Journal

*“Tasted at Chateau Clinet. This is certainly showing sur-maturite on the nose with unavoidable prune/raisin notes and some volatility. The palate is full-bodied, soft entry but lacking freshness, particularly on the Rioja-like finish. Tasted April 2010.”*

- NM, Wine Journal

*“87-89 Barrel sample. There is good structure here, fresh fruit and attractive sweet plums. The wine feels ripe, but quite structured, finishing sweet.”*

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Ripe, round and supple. Sweet on attack but balancing freshness. Grippy finish. Good, if a little one-dimensional. Drink 2014-2022.”*

- SS, Decanter.com

*“90% Merlot, 10% Cab Franc from Herve Laviale of Franc Mayne in Saint Emilion, and right now investing seriously in this estate. It’s a bit over-oaked (but no surprise there, this is often a signature of this family of wines), and a touch over-pedalled on the extraction. But there is good stuff underneath, enough plump fruits, to carry it through, and an excellent lift on the finish. 91+.”*

- JA, The New Bordeaux

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