

Château Berliquet 2000

CSPC# 749536

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

70% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation

St Emilion

Classification

Grand Cru Classe in 1985

Website

<http://www.chateau-berliquet.com/>

General Info

The name of Berliquet is one of the oldest Saint-Emilion vineyard, this one is already on the cards Belleyme in 1768. Château Berliquet is located on the Magdelaine plateau, a few hundred meters from the village of Saint-Emilion.

This is one of the oldest estates in the region, and Berliquet is included on the famous map drawn by Belleyme (an engineer working for King Louis XV) in 1768. In 1829, Berliquet was considered one of Saint Emilion's five grands crus. The estate currently belongs to SCEA Château Berliquet, managed by Patrick and Jérôme de Lesquen.

The classification of 1986 allowed the castle Berliquet to find the place it held among the great wines of Saint Emilion. The year 1996 marked a turning point in the life of the castle Berliquet. With the support of Patrick Valette, Patrick De Lesquen and his team do their utmost to establish the reputation of the castle Berliquet.

The castle Berliquet listens to determine the optimum time for harvest. Thus the castle Berliquet puts all his skills to bring you the best of its soil.

Vintage

Precisely as in other parts of Bordeaux, the weather conditions in Saint-Émilion were extremely advantageous in August and September, and it resulted in wonderfully ripe Merlot and as so equally ripe Cabernet Franc. But unlike 1998, when August was tropically hot and had high desert-like humidity, August in 2000 was very dry and with comfortably low humidity. September 1998 began with some rain but ended with warm and sunny weather, while September 2000 enjoyed pleasant and hot weather and almost with no rain in first three weeks.

Vineyards

The 9 hectares of vines face south by southwest and border on several Premiers Grands Crus Classés. Château Berliquet is divided into three parts: the plateau (25% of the total area under vine) with clay soil on a limestone subsoil, the slope (50%) with predominantly clay soil, and the pied de côte or "foot of the slop" (25%), with a high percentage of brown clay. Grape varieties consist of Merlot (70%), Cabernet Franc (25%), and Cabernet Sauvignon (5%). The average age of the vines is about 30 years.

Harvest

Hand harvested in small crates

Maturation

Since the takeover by Patrick Valette, winemaking has continued to progress. The length of macerated berries 20 to 30 days, the fermentation is conducted in small tanks under controlled temperature between 28 ° C and 30 ° C, followed by malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels. The wine is in monolithic limestone quarries located in the vineyard for about fifteen months in new barrels and 90%.

Tasting Notes

Strikingly graceful and deep in flavor, the 2000 Berliquet is even better than the impressive, but broodingly tannic, 1998 from this property.

Promoted to Grand Cru Classe in 1985, Berliquet is a strong candidate for admission into the exclusive club of Saint-Emilion's Premiers Grand Crus Classes. Not only is it located on prime vineyards on the limestone plateau of Saint-Emilion, just paces away from the vineyards of superstars Chateau Magdalene and Chateau Canon, it has improved dramatically since 1997 under the tutelage of winemaker Patrick Valette.

Neither a new wave garagiste nor a hidebound traditionalist, Vallette aims to produce balanced, concentrated wines by emphasizing the vineyard over the vat house.

Resisting the current fashion for picking ultra-ripe grapes, Vallette prefers the pure flavors of grapes that have achieved a natural maturity in low-yielding vineyards. The result is a wine with lovely expression of fruit, a subtle complexity and excellent length on the palate. In 2000, the balance of fruit and tannins is just about perfect for most wine drinkers, with enough structure to allow the wine to age well for 7 to 10



Tasting Notes	years, but with sufficient up-front blueberry/ blackberry fruit to make it delectable right now. The main characteristic of this vintage 2000 is an aromatic intensity, persistent and a final in mouth perfectly balanced and long
Production	2,500 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2012-2027
Scores/Awards	<p>91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003</p> <p>89-91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001</p> <p>90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 22, 2003</p> <p>90-92 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 27, 2002</p> <p>90-91 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 22, 2001</p> <p>16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 4, 2001</p> <p>88-91 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2002</p> <p>94 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)</p> <p>16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)</p> <p>17 points - La Revue du Vin France</p> <p>2 stars - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2004</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Plenty of crushed berry, with flowers and hints of toasted oak. Full-bodied, with well-integrated tannins and a round, creamy aftertaste. Modern and refined. Very well-done for this château. Best after 2007. 2,500 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Loads of mineral, violet and berry character. Full-bodied, with masses of fruit and round, ripe tannins. Very well done indeed. Score range: 89-91."</i></p> <p>- JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"More of a finesse-styled St.-Emilion than many other wines from this hotbed of activity, the 2000 is the finest Berliquet yet produced. It exhibits an impressive saturated ruby/purple color as well as jammy cherry and cassis liqueur aromas, medium to full body, sweet tannin, a multi-tiered mid-palate, and a long finish. An elegant wine, it is a sleeper of the vintage. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2020."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2000 exhibits an impressive saturated ruby/purple color as well as jammy cherry and cassis liqueur aromas, medium to full body, sweet tannin, a multi-tiered mid-palate, and a long finish. It is a sleeper of the vintage. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2020."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The finest Berliquet yet made, young Patrick Valette has taken this obscure under-achiever to new heights with his 2000. A dense ruby/purple-colored wine with impressive aromatics (primarily jammy currants, black cherries, earth, licorice, and vanilla), this classically structured, pure St.-Emilion possesses nearly perfect equilibrium, power married to elegance, and enough vibrant acidity to provide focus. Anticipated maturity: 2005-2020. It is a sleeper of the vintage."</i></p> <p>- RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Full medium ruby. Highly aromatic nose of black cherry, cassis and violet. Juicy and perfumed in the mouth, with lively, rather cool flavors of black fruits, violet and spice. Subtle and stylish. Finishes with firm, sweet tannins and very good length."</i></p> <p>- ST, International Wine Cellar</p> <p><i>"Alluring nose. Palate rich and concentrated, lots of flavor in a youthful, compact modern style with good, vibrant, fresh fruit and structured balance. 5-10 years"</i></p> <p>- Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"Actually, managed by Patrick Valette, Berliquet, in the last three vintages has recovered its illustrious past. The wine has color of great depth and an immensely expressive nose allied to mature fruit and finesse. This is a very beautiful, racy wine which will age to be a marvel. Bravo for this rebirth!"</i></p> <p>- La Revue de Vin France</p>
