

Château La Commanderie 2010

CSPC# 756498

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

St. Emilion

General Info

Chateau La Commanderie is a semi obscure St. Emilion chateau with a long history dating back all the way to the 13th century. At the time, the vineyards were planted to provide wine for the Commandery of Knights and Monks of St. John of Jerusalem. Skipping ahead several centuries, Chateau La Commanderie was purchased in 1959 by Fernand De. The property was obtained by the current owners, Thibaut and Magli Decoster who also own another St. Emilion estate, Clos de Jacobins, in 2004. Once the purchase of Chateau La Commanderie was finalized, the Decoster's conducted a complete renovation of the cellars and wine making facilities. They also changed how the vineyards were tended. They began an organic, sustainable farming approach. The wine making of Chateau La Commanderie is consulted by Hubert de Bouard of Chateau Angelus. There is a second wine, Les Chemins de la Commanderie.

Vineyards

The St. Emilion vineyards of Chateau La Commanderie are situated not far from the border of Pomerol and St. Emilion, not too far from Chateau Figeac or Chateau Cheval Blanc. The 6 hectare vineyards are planted to 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc on sand, with gravel and iron deposits, that is typical of that part of the St. Emilion appellation. On average, the vines are 35 years of age. The vineyard is planted to a vine density of 8,500 vines per hectare.

Vinification/

Maturation

The wine is fermented in 80 hectoliter, concrete vats and aged in 50% new, French oak barrels for 18 months. On average, the production is 2,500 cases per year.

Tasting Notes

Intense colour with crimson highlights. Concentrated nose marked by oak with fruity aromas in the background. Dense palate with tightly knit, firm tannins framed by fat and power. Massive across the palate and displaying good balance in this style.

Cellaring

Drink now -2022

Scores/Awards

91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013

90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011

86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013

90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - November 2012

91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2013

90-91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2011

89 points - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2012

88 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2011

91 points - Jeff Loo, JJBuckley Wines - April 2011

90-92 points - Jeannie Cho Lee, asianpalate.com

Reviews

"Dense but restrained, with a charcoal frame holding the solid core of black currant and blackberry fruit at bay for now. There's a nice smoldering feel through the finish, with latent depth. Not super big, but has good character. Drink now through 2022"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Still a touch chunky, with the grippy edge leading the way for a solid core of boysenberry, blueberry and blackberry fruit. There's spice and anise buried on the finish, with nicely integrated acidity, though this does show the vintage's alcoholic power. Score range: 90-93"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Soft, round, herbaceously-tinged black currant fruits intermixed with tobacco leaf and fruitcake are all present in this medium-bodied, easygoing bistro-style Bordeaux. Drink it over the next 5-6 years. A member of the Alliance des Cru Bourgeois du Medoc."

- RP, Wine Advocate



Reviews

"Tasted at the Crus Bourgeois 2010 tasting in London. The 2010 La Commanderie has a leafy bouquet with touches of mint that coalesces with time in the glass, subtle red berry and tertiary notes developing. The palate is medium bodied with a ripe, nicely poised entry. There are plenty of fleshy ripe red berries at its core and the finish is natural and harmonious. This will drink well over the following decade. Drink now-2018. Tasted September 2012."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Vibrant red nose with cranberries, red cherries and violets. Some leather and a steely mineral note. Fresh bright fruit on the palate with a juicy acidity and medium body. Dynamic and lively with good length, but still quite firm tannins that need to integrate. A little more on the finish would make it even better. Try in 2016."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Round and velvety, with chocolate, spice and coffee. Full body, and velvety."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Better, some well defined plum and damson fruits, and good length. Not soaring though. 80/20 merlot/cab franc. 89/100. Drink 2020-2030."

- JA, The New Bordeaux

"Deep and dense; thick and ripe, slightly stewed note; sweet and ripe palate; thick and rich; lacks a bit of finesse and a bit monolithic; big; lacks bit of grip at the end. 88/100. Tasted 6 April Le Cercle Rive Droite."

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

"85% merlot and 15% cabernet franc. Located by Cheval Blanc and Figeac. On the nose, raspberry, crushed rock and flowers develop, followed by vanilla and freshly poured concrete. The palate is medium to full bodied with a creamy, lingering texture. Tannins seem integrated and balanced, and the wine offers a wonderfully complex finish. Drink after 2018. Tasted twice with consistent notes."

- JL, JJ Buckley Wines

"This wine has gorgeous velvety tannins with opulent plummy fruit. A wonderful wine that is big without being heavy and massive. The flavours are detailed and delicate and very diverse - spices, fresh fruit, cedar, floral notes. A delicious La Commanderie which will keep and age beautifully."

JCL, asianpalate.com
