

# Château La Fleur Morange 2011

CSPC# 763547

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**

50% Merlot, 50% Cabernet Franc

**Appellation**

St. Emilion

**Website**

<http://www.lafleurmorange.com/>

**General Info**

Owned by Jean-François Julien, Chateau La Fleur Morange owns some of the oldest vines in St. Emilion. Many of the vines are over 100 years old! These old vines, which offer only a small amount of fruit, but very concentrated fruit, give this wine a unique character. The estate produces another St. Emilion wine, La Fleur Morange Mathilde, which year after year produces one of the top value wines in all of Bordeaux.

**Vineyards**

The sandy clay with limestone and crasse de fer subsoil is planted to 70% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon. Extensive work goes into the production of this St. Emilion wine, located in the extreme eastern portion of the appellation. The effort begins like all great wineries in the vineyard. At Chateau La Fleur Morange, debudding, crop thinning up to four times, two de-leafings all take place in an effort to reduce yields. It is the goal of the estate to try and pick fruit when it's fully ripe. At that point, the grapes are hand-harvested, table-sorted and entirely hand destemmed, which is an arduous task. Yields are often low at Lafleur Morange. For example, in 2009, they were only twenty-five hectoliters per hectare!

**Maturation**

After harvest, the wine endures a six-day cold soak at 3 degrees Celsius. Next, the wine must is fermented in unique, 50 hectoliter, truncated, stainless steel tanks with dual insulated walls. These vats isolate the wine from eventual temperature swings in the cellar. They were the first of their kind in the Bordeaux region. The wine enjoys a 30-day maceration. Pigeage, malolactic fermentation and sur lies aging all take place in 100% new, French oak barrels. Aged in 100% new French oak for about 18 months. The amount of aging varies depending on the vintage. Production of Chateau La Fleur Morange is on average 5,000 bottles per vintage.

**Tasting Notes**

A deep ruby purple colour. Sweet aromas of jammy blueberries and blackberries with a subtle hint of new oak on the nose. In the mouth it becomes immediately round, soft and richly textured. It has everything you look for in a genuine opulent wine.

**Production**

330 cases made

**Cellaring**

Drink 2012-2032

**Scores/Awards**

**89 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2014

**92-94+ points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #200 - April 2012

**87-88 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2012

**92-93 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 24, 2012

**Reviews**

*"Offers a toasty frame, with a core of fig, plum and boysenberry fruit, complemented by a spine that delivers a chalky edge for cut and balance. Presents a violet hint in the background. Best from 2015 through 2020. 330 cases made."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

*"A more classic cuvee, the 2011 La Fleur Morange (cropped at 20 hectoliters per hectare) is a blend of equal parts Cabernet Franc and Merlot that may have the highest natural alcohol of any wine in this vintage, 15%. Stunningly pure notes of black cherries and black currant liqueur intermixed with licorice, incense and acacia flowers are followed by a dense, full-bodied, unctuously textured wine that seems to have more in common with a vintage such as 2009 or 2010 than most 2011s. The wine's acidity is lower than in most of its peers, but the levels of concentration and intensity are very high. This beauty should drink well for 15-20 years.*

*I have enjoyed these two offerings in just about every vintage I have tasted. Well-known oenologist Claude Gros appears to be building a decent portfolio of clients in Bordeaux, even though he is from Narbonne in the Languedoc-Roussillon corridor."*

- RP, Wine Advocate



**Reviews** *"A wine with blackberry and mineral character with dark chocolate. Full and chewy. A little hollow. But I like it."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"From an even split of Merlot and Cabernet Franc, the wine is made from vines that are over 100 years old and aged in 100% new oak. This round-textured St. Emilion opens with coffee, truffle, chocolate and black cherry and ends with a black cherry-filled finish. 92-93 Pts"*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

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