

Château Haut Brisson 2019

CSPC# 771459

750mlx12

13.95% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

St. Emilion

Classification

Grand Cru Classé

Website

<http://www.vignoblesk.com/en/wine-chateau-haut-brisson.aspx#v2688>

Sustainability

Certified Organic in 2010.

General Info

Chateau Haut Brisson, located in the Vignonet sector of St. Emilion, not far from Monbousquet or Teyssier was purchased in 1997 by Taiwanese businessman Peter Kwok. Peter Kwok, the new owner wanted to discover how far he could push the quality envelop for his Right Bank chateau. Before he could do that, he began increasing the size of their vineyards. When Kwok completed his purchase, the estate was only 8 hectares. Today, Chateau Haut Brisson has a total of 12.77 hectares of land in St. Emilion.

Starting with the 2005 vintage at Haut Brisson, they introduced the small production, 400 case Bordeaux wine, Haut Brisson La Reserve. This higher end cuvee is a selection of the best parcels and the finest barrels. The wine is aged in 100% new, French oak.

Both wines drink well young. There is a second wine, Haut Brisson La Grave.

The Château is currently being part-managed by Kwok's eldest daughter, Elaine, aged 32, while the 17-hectare Château Tour Saint Christophe, which was previously owned by Castel, will pass to Karen, aged 27, while Château La Patache has been secured for Howard, aged 24.

Kwok splits his time between Hong Kong and the US, although Trezieres said he visits Saint Emilion every two months and loves French culture.

Winemaker

Jérôme Aguirre. Michel Rolland is a consultant.

Vintage

Winter: very mild. Spring: cool. Summer: exceptionally hot and dry. Autumn: very fine start to the season, some rainfall end September.

Vineyards

Chateau Haut Brisson was certified organic in 2010. They are now farming more of the estate using biodynamic farming techniques. The St. Emilion vineyards of Haut Brisson cover 32 acres and sits on mostly sandy soils. The blend for each Bordeaux wine is on average, 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. The vines are close to 30 years of age.

Harvest

The 2019 Haut Brisson was picked 27 September until 5 October at 41hl/ha

Vinification

After a meticulous selection process on the vines and in the winery, the sorted grapes are filled into stainless steel tanks or directly into Bordeaux barrels (about 10% of the harvest). This follows the method of Vinification Intégrale. Our team is always present at the opening and closing of barrels by our cooper partners for better quality control. The vatting process lasts 30 days, operating a gentle extraction with pigeages in tank and stirring in barrel. The juices are tasted daily in order to protect the expression of our fruit. These tastings allow us to determine the day for the running off and pressing of the grape marcs. The resulting juice is placed then in barrels for malolactic fermentation.

Maturation

40% new barrels - 40% 1-wine barrels - 20% 2-wine barrels for 15 months

Tasting Notes

Dark purple colour with violet hue and black core. Refined nose with aromas reminiscent of black cherries, ripe plums, fine toasting, and elegant oak spices. The palate is well balanced with ripe tannins and discreet acidity. Flavourful with ripe dark berries, juicy plums, cherries, fine toasting, and mild spices.

Serve with

Chateau Haut Brisson is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.

Production

1600 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2021-2035



Scores/Awards **91 points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022
89-91 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020
94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022
93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020
91 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022
92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022
91-93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020
90-92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020
91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022
91-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020
92-94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020
91-93 points - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2020
93 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020
92-93 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020

Reviews *"The 2019 Haut-Brisson delivers aromas of dark berries, cherry preserve, baking chocolate and creamy new oak. Full-bodied, broad, and fleshy, it's a generous, rather muscular Saint-Émilion, with plenty of ripe fruit and powdery structuring tannin. It's produced from a site near Monbousquet characterized by fine gravel soils."*
- WK, Wine Advocate

*"The 2019 Haut-Brisson is a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc. The alcohol this year is 13.95% and the pH is 3.7. It came in at a yield of 41 hectoliters per hectare. The wine is being aged in French oak barrels, 35% new. Deep garnet-purple in color, it prances out of the glass with bold, expressive baked black cherries, mulberries, and plum preserves scents, followed by suggestions of Chinese five spice, red roses, baker's chocolate, and sautéed herbs. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers loads of spicy black fruit with a lively line of freshness and approachable, chewy tannins, finishing with an herbal lift.
Barrel Sample: 89-91"*
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"Blackberries and fresh herbs with some dried soil and bark on the nose and palate. Medium to full body with fine, polished tannins and a long, racy finish. Really polished and precise. Drink after 2024."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This is very opulent and rich with lots of ripe fruit. Full-bodied, layered and very rich. Dried fruit and black truffles. Very velvety and flavorful. Rich, yet fresh. Less new oak for this. 90% merlot and 10% cabernet franc. Barrel Sample: 93-94."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"From the ever-reliable stable of Peter Kwok that has been really striking out to another level of quality over recent vintages. This has plenty of savoury fruit, more so than you might have found in this wine a few years ago. Subtle and understated at first, but it settles and opens in the glass. Touches of liquorice root well matched by cassis and blueberry, rolled up into a smoky finish. Lovely, supple, elegant. Barrel Sample: 91."
- JA, Decanter.com

"I like how they backed off the oak, allowing more of the sweet, red cherries and herbs to shine. Medium-bodied, fresh, soft, and just about ready to go, you can already enjoy the layers of ripe plums and black raspberries with finishing touches of espresso and chocolate in the endnote. Give it a year or two in the cellar and it will be even better. Drink from 2024-2033."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Dark in color, the wine is rich, forward, round, and soft. The fruit is ripe, open, lush, sweet and doesn't hide its charms. The finish is all about the toffee, licorice, and dark plums. Give it 4-5 years in the cellar and drink it over the next 10-12 years after that. The wine was produced from a blend of 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, reaching 13.95 alcohol. Production is close to half its normal volume this year, as a large portion of the vineyard is being replanted."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews

“The 2019 Haut Brisson was picked 27 September until 5 October at 41hl/ha and fermented in stainless steel with sulphur addition. It has a lovely, very pure bouquet, an equal measure of red and black fruit laced with a judicious amount of new oak. Just a dab of Thai fish oil in the background. The palate is actually a different kettle of fish: much edgier than the bouquet intimates with striking acidity and tension, a little gritty in texture and charcoal-like towards the finish. This is a fascinating Saint-Émilion, maybe a tad different to the Haut Brisson that I am accustomed to. I am fascinated to see which way it goes after bottling”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2019 Haut-Brisson is elegant and understated. Crushed red berry fruit, spice, mint, blood orange and licorice open nicely, followed by sweet floral accents that add lift. There is a bit of graininess in the tannin that lurks in the background. Otherwise, this is nicely done.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2019 Haut-Brisson is dark, fleshy, and so seductive. Succulent dark cherry, chocolate, licorice, menthol, and spice all resonate in this super-appealing, mid-weight Saint-Émilion. Pretty floral notes add brightness with a bit of time in the glass. The 2019 is one of the more refined vintages I have tasted here of late.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2019 Château Haut Brisson is another rich yet finesse-oriented Saint-Émilion, and it might be the finest I've tasted from them. Lots of black raspberry, cassis, spring flowers, and violet notes define the bouquet, and it has a touch of chocolatey oak, lots of opulence and decadence, straight-up awesome purity, and a great finish. It's a beautiful, powerful yet elegant 2019. Barrel Sample: 92-94+.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, delicate rim lightening. Smoky-herb-spicy underlying black wild berry fruit, blackberries, liquorice, fine touch of precious wood, some nougat. Complex, juicy, ripe cherries, fine tannins, good freshness on the finish, balanced and already well developed, chocolatey appeal, good development potential.”

- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is fruity and offers power. It reveals notes of cassis, blueberry, small notes of wild strawberry associated with touches of liquorice stick, spices, and tobacco. The palate is fruity, mineral, well-balanced and offers a fine acidulous frame, gourmandize and suavity. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/fleshy cassis, fleshy/juicy blackberry, small notes of violet associated with touches of fleshy/fresh raspberry as well as hints of chocolate, tonka bean and cardamom. Tannins are well-built, precise, and racy.”

- Vert de Vin
