

Château Haut-Brisson La Réserve 2010

CSPC# 753463

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc.

Appellation

Saint Emilion

General Info

The vines of Château Haut-Brisson were planted by the father of the previous owner in 1945. Peter Kwok, a Taiwanese businessman, bought Château Haut-Brisson in 1997, a 8 hectares vineyard. Then, came the purchase of new plots of land in February 2002 and April 2003. Château Haut-Brisson vineyard counts now 16.00 hectares. Peter is one of these foreigners who likes good wine and French culture. Peter wanted to buy a property to learn how to make wine and pass this knowledge down to his children. Since the purchase of Château Haut-Brisson, all the family has come regularly to learn French, children helping in the vines during their school holiday.

Since, Peter Kwok has wished learning, understanding the culture of wine and winemaking. That is why he decided to invest in Château Haut-Brisson, and spent time and money with the purchase of new plots of land, building a new vats room (tronic stainless steel vats with thermoregulation), two barrels rooms, and went into partnership with two well-known oenologists who are Michel Rolland and Marc Quertinier, both of them has been advising us and guiding us with the wine-making techniques.

Since 2000, our two wines (Château Haut-Brisson and Château Haut-Brisson La Grave) have been rewarded in many challenges. That is why we decided to produce "La Réserve" wine since 2005, a dual selection: our best parcels combined with our best barrels in order to bring out our soils, our know-how and Château Haut-Brisson evolution...

Elaine Kwok, Peter eldest daughter has been taking over by degrees. A new direction: Sandrine Bosc, director and winemaker, Aline Trezieres, business manager. A team of dynamic women, who are willing to develop the sexy, stylish pleasant part of Haut-Brisson wines.

Vintage

A cold winter, followed by cool April and May, and then a reasonably warm summer gave the grapes a high aromatic potential. The wines have aromas of black fruit, powerful and concentrated, reminding us of 2005. Harmonious with a nice acidity, with great longevity ensured.

Vineyards

Average vine age is 40 years old. The 16 hectares of the vineyard lay across three communes: Saint-Emilion, Saint Sulpice de Faleyrens and Vignonet on a gentle slope of sandy topsoil over gravel soil with clinker deeper down. Blending: 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5 % Cabernet Franc with a density of 5,500-6,000 vines per hectare.

Harvest Maturation

Hand-picked harvest, using plastic crates. Three sorting tables for the best selection
Stainless steel vats with thermoregulation: - 8-days long maceration before fermentation to stabilize aromas - 28-30°C alcoholic fermentation to extract phenolic components - 10-20 days long post-fermentation vatting. Daily tasting by our team to decide the frequency of each operation (pumping-over, release, punching of the cap...) Finally skins on the press.

Stainless steel vats with thermoregulation for 3-4 weeks. Aged 24 months in 100% New French oak barrels. Unfined & unfiltered.

Tasting Notes

The top cuvee – a selection of the production from top-performing parcels of the vintage, generally from the oldest Merlot vines in Huck, Monbousquet and Gessan. The first year of production was 2005. This wine has an explosive perfume and is full-bodied and intense in its youth, teaming with ripe, juicy blackberries, plums and vanilla. Coming from vines grown on gravelly soils, the grapes add extra complexity to the character of the wine.

Production

9,000 bottles made



Cellaring Drink 2016-2030

Scores/Awards **93 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013

90-92+ points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - April 2011

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

Reviews *"The more beefed-up, structured, tannic and slightly oakier 2010 Haut-Brisson Reserve ratchets up the level of concentration. The fruit seems darker and more foreboding, and the wine cuts a broader swathe across the palate. It is an impressive wine, but much younger and more of a long-term proposition than the regular cuvee. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2030. Owned by a prominent Chinese family, this has been a consistent winner in every vintage I have tasted to date. They usually make two cuvees, both of which merit consumer interest."*
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Haut-Brisson La Reserve: Bigger, richer and denser with a more tannic structure and fuller body than the regular cuvee, the 2010 La Reserve is an impressively endowed wine, but 4-5 years of patience will be needed. It should keep for two decades."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Attractive nose of raspberries, red cherries, vanilla and some spicy nutmeg. Nice dense fruit on attack and turns silky and very refined. Nicely textured. Very rich and full of depth. Give it time. Subtle and sexy. Best wine ever from this estate. Try in 2016."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
