

Château Troplong Mondot 2011

CSPC# 890707

750mlx6

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	89% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 2% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	St. Emilion
Classification	Premier Grand Cru Classé B in 2006.
Website	http://www.chateau-troplong-mondot.com/eng/Actu.asp?NumCat=1
Sustainability	Sustainable soil valuation analyses by Lydia and Claude Bourguignon, since 2007 Preservation of the biodiversity for more than 20 years thanks to the hedges, the forests and the walls that shelter the fauna.
General Info	<p>Château Troplong Mondot is a St. Emilion Premier Grand Cru Classé property that has in the last decade been producing wines that are the equal of many 1er Grand Cru Classé estates. Its handsome château dates back to 1745 and Troplong-Mondot was originally part of one sizeable domaine which included the vineyards of Château Pavie.</p> <p>In the 17th century, the vineyard belonged to the Abbé Raymond de Sèze, who built the chateau as it stands today in 1745. The Sèze family was one of the most prestigious of the Bordeaux area's landed gentry and owned many other estates. It was particularly illustrious in providing Louis XVI with his personal lawyer, Raymond de Sèze. Under the aegis of the Abbé, Mondot won its place among the best Saint Emilion wines.</p> <p>In 1850, Raymond Troplong took over Mondot and turned it into the 33-hectares estate, unchanged to this very day. A peer, a famous jurist and a lover of art and literature, he became president of the Senate in 1852 and held this office until his death in 1869. In spite of his state duties, he operated the rich Mondot estate with remarkable success, producing a highly prized wine classed by the renowned <i>Annuaire des Châteaux de Féret</i> as Saint-Emilion's second finest wine in 1868. Edouard Troplong, his nephew, and successor, added the name Troplong to the estate before he sold it.</p> <p>The château entered the modern age with the Valette family. Alexandre Valette, a Parisian vintner, bought the estate crafted by Raymond Troplong. He already owned Château La France in Fronsac and would soon acquire Château Pavie. In 1980 Alexandre's great granddaughter, Christine, took over the estate and was joined, 10 years later, by her husband, Xavier Pariente. Together they continued to improve and embellish the vineyard, cellar, and chateau. This hard work and their efforts proved worthwhile when in 2006 Troplong Mondot was awarded 1er Grand Cru Classé status.</p>
Winemaker	Aymeric de Gironde – Technical Director. Thomas Duclos consults.
Vintage	The year 2011 offered special climatic conditions. Early bud burst occurred from 21 March, followed by extensive flowering, which began on 9 May, followed by a heterogeneous veraison beginning 13 July. An exceptionally dry spring followed by a wet and cool summer. Then a breathtaking September, with a beautiful Indian summer (rainy localized).
Vineyards	Troplong Mondot has 30 hectares of vineyards well-sited alongside the hill of Mondot to the north-east of the St-Emilion appellation. The soils are rich in limestone clay and are planted with Merlot (90%), Cabernet Franc (5%) and Cabernet Sauvignon (5%).
Harvest	The grape harvest took place on 16 and 16 September for the early Merlot plots, then from 19 to 28 September for the older Merlot and on 5 October for the Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon. Vintage winemaker, excellent for those who played the game of patience!
Maturation	For the winemaker, 2011 is unquestionably a year of technical mastery. Probably a great classic vintage in Saint-Emilion. Vinification is made in small thermostatically controlled stainless steel vats. Traditional vinification or cold pre-fermentation maceration. Reassembly, shedding and punching. Duration of vatting from 21 to 35 days with or without yeast. The fine wine has been drained by gravity, for 85% of the harvest in new barrels and will remain there for ageing between 12 and 24 months. Racking off the barrel. Final assembly, at the end of rearing, non-systematic gluing before bottling. Second wine: Mondot.
Tasting Notes	A great wine is a notion of balance between elements complementing one another: strength and elegance, complexity, and precision. At Château Troplong Mondot, men reveal the terroir.



Serve with Chateau Troplong Mondot is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Troplong Mondot is a perfect match with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta as well as cheese.

Production 6,250 cases made

Cellaring Drink 2016-2028

Scores/Awards **92 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2014

91-94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2012

95 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #212 - April 2014

91-93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #200 - April 2012

87-89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal #0512 - April 2012

93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2014

93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2012

93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - January 2014

92-94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2012

16.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2012

90+ points - Steven Spurrier, Decanter.com - December 2014

17.5 points - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2012

92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2014

94-96 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2012

92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2012

94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - November 2017

94 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2017

97 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2012

93-94 points - Vert de Vin - February 2015

94 points - Andreas Larsson, Tasted - May 2012

87-90 points - Stephen Tanzer, International Wine Cellar - May 2012

17 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2016

17.5 points - Bettane & Desseave (score only) - January 2016

16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - January 2016

Reviews *"This pulls no punches, with a torrent of raspberry preserves, plum sauce and blackberry cobbler rushing forth, studded with warm fruit cake and melted licorice notes. Offers a long, well-toasted finish, where everything hangs together harmoniously. An impressive example of the powerful style. Best from 2016 through 2028."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"A gorgeous red, offering ganache and fig notes melded nicely together, with ample heft, but good freshness, with a long, dark, richly layered finish. This goes for power—and pulls it off."
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The brilliant 2011 Troplong Mondot is one of the superstars of the vintage. The final blend was 89% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc, and the wine tips the scales at 14.5% alcohol. Its opaque blue/purple, nearly black color is followed by aromas of blueberry liqueur interwoven with black raspberries, blackberries, licorice, camphor, and forest floor. Among the most complete wines of the vintage, with no hollowness, astringency or herbaceousness, this is a tour de force in a challenging vintage. Some tannins are noticeable, but this 2011 is already approachable and should provide delicious, complex drinking over the next two decades. Bravo!

It was with great sadness and grief that I learned of proprietor Christine Valette's passing on March 29, 2014, at entirely too young an age."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"The wine boasts a dense blue/purple color as well as aromas of black raspberries, blackberries, acacia flowers, espresso, toasty oak, and a sweet, mossy, foresty character that ranges from an autumnal, vegetative smell to minerality. Opulent, dense, and strikingly rich and extracted with moderately high tannins, this is one of the bigger, richer wines of the vintage. Give it 4-5 years of cellaring and drink it over the following 20-25."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"A blend of 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc picked from 16th September with the Merlot until 5th October with the Cabernet. The nose on the 2011 is tightly wound with reluctant blackberry and cassis notes, the alcohol more contained than last year. The palate is full-bodied with ripe, furry tannins and

- Reviews** *layers of toasty, quite spicy black fruit laced with liquorice. The finish is a little dry and mealy and comparing it directly to the sample of Chateau Canon...well, the difference cannot be disguised. Tasted April 2012.*
- NM, Wine Journal
- "This is a muscular wine for the vintage with loads of fruit and tannins, not to mention the new wood. Full body, chewy and intense. Lots of minerals, sweet tobacco, and berries. Needs at least three to four years to soften. A big, muscular 2011."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "I love the aromas of blackberries with hints of minerals and flowers. Hints of subtle sandalwood. Full body, with a beautiful balance of juicy fruit and bright acidity. Long and spicy with intense character. 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "There is a sense of alcohol with this wine. It is so rich, so dense, so ripe. The texture is round, full in the mouth with a touch of pepper. As a contrast, it also shows a surprising amount of freshness, especially in the aftertaste. Drink this ultra-rich wine from 2018."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Mint and new wood aromas lead to a palate that has dark and concentrated tannins. The wine is bright and fresh, with juicy black-currant and plum flavors."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Drink 2017-2027. Deep black cherry colour, black core. Sweet but not overripe damson and plum. A touch floral and toasty/tarry too. Bags of black fruit, chocolate texture and flavour on the palate."*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- "Violet, blackcurrant, and cedar on the complex nose. The palate is rich, supple, sweet, and seductive. A big, powerful wine with big structure and tannins, but with the fruit to match it for a good future. Drink 2016-2035. (90+/100 points)"*
- SS, Decanter.com
- "Dark and modern but the power commensurate with the vintage. Intense, spicy, and rich but a little less force and more finesse. Drink 2020-2030."*
- JL, Decanter.com
- "One of the top Right Bank wines of the vintage. The earthy, licorice filled, truffle, black cherry, espressi and smoke is a treat. This is one of the more concentrated wines of the vintage, finishing with fleshy, flashy, cocoa dusted black cherries."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Blending 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc, the wine reached approximately 14.5% ABV. From yields of 41 hectoliters per hectare, the wine is aged in 85% new oak. Inky in color with blue/purple color in the rim, the wine is plush, rich, round, and polished with chocolate-covered boysenberry, caramel, earth, coffee and plummy scents. Filled with sweet, ripe, fresh bitter chocolate and cherries, there is length, purity, and polish."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Producing a wine with 15% alcohol wasn't easy in 2011, but if anyone was going to, this was the chateau to do it, given its predilection for super ripe flavours. This is very much a New World style, whose flavours wouldn't look out of place in the Napa Valley. Bold, tannic, and slightly raisiny, it's a style that may appeal to some. 8+ years."*
- TA, timatkin.com

Reviews *"The 2011 Troplong Mondot (89% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc) is a beautiful wine in this slightly challenging vintage and has a perfumed, sexy, complex style in its black raspberry, truffle, forest floor and new saddle leather aromas and flavors. This medium to full-bodied beauty is nicely balanced, has ripe tannin, and a great finish, all of which make it irresistible today. Enjoy bottles anytime over the coming 15+ years."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

"The nose is gourmand, elegant, fine, and precise. It reveals notes of black fruit associated with a touch of red fruits. The palate is tight, fruity, beautifully dense and reveals a certain tension. An acid frame leads the tasting. There is a bit less matter than on the 2010 vintage. In the mouth it expresses notes of fresh black fruit (blackberry, plum) associated with a touch of raspberry as well as woody notes and very light notes of hazelnut and chocolate. Tannins are elegant and young. A beautiful wine!"

- Vert de Vin

"Very dark and inky core. The nose has good ripeness and nuance - blackberry, cherry, fine oak, smoke, spice box and violet. The palate has a very massive structure with layers of dark fruit, plenty of extract but polished, yet young tannin, well preserved freshness, concentrated fruit, and an immensely long finish. Huge potential."

- AL, Tasted.com

"Purple-ruby; this stains the glass. Super ripe, showy aromas of plum, blackberry jam and sweet spices. Then very oaky and astringent in the mouth, with the black fruit flavors currently overwhelmed by mouth-drying tannins. This wine is saved by its floral, complex perfume; otherwise, I'd have serious reservations about it. My hope is that time will bring better balance and a smoother middle palate."

- ST, International Wine Cellar
