

Château de Pez 2018

CSPC# 103324

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	Saint Estèphe
Classification	Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel
Website	https://mmdusa.net/portfolio/chateau-de-pez
Sustainability	HEV3 (High Environmental Value)
General Info	<p>Originally founded in the 15th century, Château de Pez is one of the oldest properties in Bordeaux's Left Bank and the oldest domaine in Saint-Estèphe. Château de Pez consists of 104 continuous acres with 94 acres planted mainly to Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.</p> <p>Since 2005, Pez has been on an exciting intellectual and technical journey of precision winemaking: experimenting with biodynamic viticulture, a new cellar allowing for plot-by-plot vinification, a meticulous selection of French oak barrels. Under winemaker Nicolas Glumineau's helm, the property bears the distinctive hallmarks of Saint-Estèphe with a modern, elegant twist.</p>
Winemaker	Jean-Luc Chazeau – cellar master. Nicolas Glumineau – General Manager.
Vintage	<p>There are vintages which stand the test of time and remain true references for our properties. At Pez, without a doubt, 2018 will be one of them in more ways than one! A vintage of all extremes, bringing together several vintages into one, 2018 delights us, enriches our experience and maintains our passion for winemaking, a vector of emotions. After a very wet and cold winter, the bud break was late, around mid-April. The relative mildness from April to June allowed a flowering at the end of May. The many storms that hit this period encouraged unprecedented mildew pressure. The vineyard of Pez experienced little coulure and fortunately escaped the hail. A hot and dry climate settled in from mid-July, causing a heterogeneous veraison. It began on July 29 for the Merlot and ended on August 17 for Cabernets and Petit Verdot's.</p>
Vineyards	<p>Soil Composition: Gravel with clay and limestone. Average Vine Age: 25 years.</p> <p>About the vineyards, terroir, and grapes. The 48 hectare Left Bank vineyard of Chateau de Pez, located in the north of the appellation, just due west of Chateau Calon Segur is planted to 48% Merlot, 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot. All of the Malbec has been removed. The vineyard, which is in 1 large parcel of vines has a terroir of gravel, limestone, and clay soils. The plantings shown here represent a marked increase in the amount of Merlot planted here, which helps add more softness to the wine. Until the mid-1990s, the vineyard was planted to about 70% Cabernet Sauvignon. The additional Merlot vines were added after the purchase by the Rouzaud family (Roederer). The vineyard of de Pez has good natural drainage because the slopes rise to almost 17 meters. The Saint Estèphe vineyard of Chateau de Pez is planted to a vine density of 9,000 vines per hectare. The vines average 25 years of age.</p>
Harvest	Stretching from September 18 to October 9, the harvest allowed each plot to be harvested at full maturity under excellent sanitary conditions.
Vinification/ Maturation	Château de Pez remains resolutely faithful to wood. The blend is composed in December, and the wine is stored in barrels (40% new wood, 40% in "Premier vin" casks and 20% in "Deuxième vin" casks) and racked every three months. It is to be noted that the wine undergoes absolutely no filtration
Tasting Notes	Very expressive nose of morello cherry and brown tobacco, with sweet notes of licorice candy and peony. A complex palate, expressing violet and fresh blackcurrant, finishing with hints of thyme and a touch of bitter orange zest that gives the finish a gourmet taste. It is a sensual and charming, yet restrained Saint-Estephe. Silky, smooth tannins give this Pez 2018 a precise and refined length.
Serve with	Chateau de Pez is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes as well as mushrooms, pasta, and cheese. Today, we're going with a "scaled-down classic" dish: Individual Beef Wellington by Eric Kim.



**Cellaring
Scores/Awards**

Drink now 2032

- 92 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2021
- 92 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2021
- 91-93 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019
- 93 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2021
- 94 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2021
- 92 points** - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - November 2020
- 93 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021
- 92-94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019
- 92 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - March 2020
- 92 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - March 2020
- 94 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2021
- 92 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2021
- 92 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2019
- 94-95 points** - Vert de Vin - April 2021
- 91 points** - Wilfred Wong, Wine.com - April 2019
- 92 points** - Andreas Larsson, Tasted - April 2021
- 93 points** - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - March 2019
- 16.5 points** - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021
- 16 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022

Reviews

"Fresh red currant and bitter cherry notes are laced with floral and chalk notes. Piercing in feel through the finish, with the fruit and minerality in lockstep as a touch of cedar appears, leaving a mouthwatering edge. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2032."
- JM, Wine Spectator

"A blend of 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2018 de Pez leaps from the glass with vibrant black cherries, ripe blackberries, and blackcurrant pastilles notes, giving way to nuances of black olives, lavender, and forest floor. The medium-bodied palate offers nicely rounded tannins and a lively backbone to counter the bold fruit, finishing savory."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"Composed of 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, the deep garnet-purple colored 2018 de Pez rocks up with bold notes of crushed black and red currants, warm plums, and mulberries with hints of unsmoked cigars, bay leaves and black pepper plus a touch of black olives. Medium to full-bodied with an approachable, fine-grained frame, it has just enough freshness and a lively lift on the finish."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"Spices and dark berries with some nutmeg and cedar. Medium to full body, really polished tannins and a refined and pretty finish. So fine. Tight yet balanced. Give it three or four years to open. Try after 2023."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Under the same Rouzaud family ownership as Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande in Pauillac, this estate has produced a structured wine. It offers dense and solid tannins, rich with a firm texture and black currant fruits. The wine has weight and density that need aging. Drink from 2026."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Always an extremely classy St-Estèphe, and this is an excellent wine that has restraint but punch, and plenty of cassis and blackberry fruits, with a governing hand of tannins that are never overdone."
- JA, Decanter.com

"Wet earth, spice box, tobacco, cedar, and currants create the nose. On the palate, the wine is round, lush, and fresh. Soft, with ample sweet, dark red fruits and a peppery kick in the back end, give this 4-6 years in the cellar before it is fully ready to go. The wine blends 49% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The darkest color ever seen at de Pez! From there it takes just a single sip to know this is a special wine. The fruits are just as dark as the hue which produces a generous, fleshy, ripe, full-bodied wine. The black cherries

Reviews *come in sprays before the spice, cocoa, espresso, licorice, and vibrancy kicks in. Energy and elegance are here in spades."*

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2018 Château de Pez was shut when I tasted it from cask with winemaker Nicolas Glumineau, so much so that I felt it was inappropriate to score it because I felt there was a great wine lurking behind that door. And so, it turned out. Now in bottle, this has a gorgeous bouquet of lifted blackberry, graphite, and flinty aromas, razor-sharp in terms of delineation. The palate is beautifully balanced with fine-grained tannins and a subtle marine influence that becomes more prominent with aeration. The oak is wonderfully integrated, and the focus is very finished. This is one of the best Château de Pez that I have tasted, but it clearly needed to wait until it was in bottle to show its potential."

- NM, *Vinous*

"The 2018 de Pez is even more impressive from bottle than it was from barrel. Time has given the Pez gorgeous finesse, softening the contours, to match the natural radiance of the year. Silky tannins wrap around a core of inky red/purplish fruit, pipe tobacco, cedar, mint, spice, and leather. The en primeur sample was decidedly flashier, but, then again, that wine was presented in 100% new oak. The finished wine, with one-third each new, one year-old and two-year-old barrels, is wonderfully refined and poised."

- AG, *Vinous*

"From the team of Nicolas Glumineau at Pichon Comtesse de Lalande, the 2018 Château De Pez is a gorgeous 2018 that should be on every Bordeaux lover's radar (and should be a great value as well). Notes of blackcurrants, blueberries, candied violets, and graphite define the bouquet, and it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, rockingly polished tannins, terrific purity, and a great finish. It's terrific and is going to have 15-20 years or more of longevity."

- Jeb Dunnuck

"Deep dark ruby, violet tints, delicate bright rim. Restrained, dark forest berries, some nougat, a breath of noble wood in the background. Medium body, fresh cherries, integrated tannins, pronounced fruit finish, good food wine."

- PM, *Falstaff Magazine*

"The nose is elegant, precise and offers concentration, a beautiful definition, a fine grain, finesse as well as an almost aerial side in the approach. It reveals notes of pulpy wild blackberry, grey pepper, pulpy strawberry, and small notes of lily associated with touches of small bright red fruits, pulpy blue plum, an iodide minerality, liquorice, cherry blossom, vanilla, and a subtle hint of sugared mild tobacco. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers freshness, minerality, a fine acidulous frame, tension full of finesse as well as power (full of delicacy, gourmandize, a fine grain, an almost aerial side and concentration (full of control). On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy blackberry, juicy cassis and small notes of wild raspberry associated with touches of small red berries, lily, violet, tonka bean/mocha, mild tobacco, a discreet hint of hazelnut, saffron and an iodide minerality. Good length. A discreet hint of good bitterness in the finish/persistence."

- Vert de Vin

"The 2018 Chateau de Pez is one of the truest-to-form Saint-Estèphe's. TASTING NOTES: This wine offers aromas and flavors of rustic spices, earth, and black fruit. Enjoy it with grilled short ribs. (Tasted: May 9, 2022, San Francisco, CA)"

- WW, wine.com

"Bright inky dark colour. Pure and youthful nose displaying inky dark fruit like cassis, fig, plum and a hint of new oak. Structured and dense palate, intense tannin yet no hard edges, just in a youthful phase, digest dark fruit flavours with a fresh acidity underneath, a slight presence of oak, some herbal sage and bay leaf flavours leading to a long dense finish. Drink from 2024."

- AL, Tasted.com