

La Dame de Montrose 2019

CSPC# 785922

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
General Info

48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot.

Saint Estèphe

Second wine from Chateau Montrose.

<http://www.chateau-montrose.com/en/la-dame-de-montrose/>

Chateau Montrose is known today for its powerful, full bodied Bordeaux wine. But that is not what the property was originally known for. In fact, before Bordeaux wine was produced at the estate, it earned fame for being a hunting area.

That all changed when Alexandre de Segur, who also owned numerous, other illustrious Bordeaux properties such as Chateau Mouton, Chateau Lafite and Chateau Latour, gave the property to his son, Nicolas Alexandre. Alexandre did not keep the property long. In 1778, he sold it to Etienne Theodore Dumoulin. During the early 1800's what we know of today as Montrose was actually part of the large Calon Segur estate. It was Etienne Dumoulin who created Chateau Montrose, due to its unique, gravel terroir. What Etienne Dumoulin noticed in those days is thought of as one of the best terroirs in all of Bordeaux. At that point in time, the true birth Chateau Montrose takes place. The Dumoulin family eventually sold Chateau Calon Segur and retained Chateau Montrose.

Next, under the direction of the son of Etienne Dumoulin, Theodore Dumoulin, the vineyards for Chateau Montrose were fully planted. The Dumoulin family built the chateau that is in use today, added modern wine making facilities and by 1815, Chateau Montrose was already on its way to being well-known for their unique St. Estèphe wines. That makes Chateau Montrose the youngest of all the 1855 Classified Growths.

In 1861, Chateau Montrose was sold to Mathieu Dollfus. Credit goes to Mathieu Dollfus for rebuilding Chateau Montrose from top to bottom. He constructed apartments for the estate workers and erected new farm buildings too. By 1880, a small village was created on the grounds of Chateau Montrose.

In 1896, the next major chapter in the history of Chateau Montrose took place when the estate became property of the Charmoule family. The new owner, Louis Victor Charmoule had a long history in the Bordeaux wine trade as he was born at Chateau Figeac in St. Emilion. By marriage, he acquired Chateau Cos d'Estournel and Chateau Pomys, also located in the St. Estèphe appellation. The Charmoule family sold Cos d'Estournel in 1917 to Fernand Ginestet. Chateau Montrose remained in the Charmoule family for three generations. During the ownership period of the Charmoule family, Chateau Montrose became one of the first Bordeaux estates to bottle their own wine. An old sales catalog from the early 20th century shows offerings stating the 1904 Montrose was bottled by the chateau.

Winemaker
Vintage

Vincent Decup

2019 marked an important step in the progression of our environmental approach, which now concerns the entire vineyard. This year, the good climatic conditions combined with our "green" farming methods enabled us to obtain a beautiful harvest combining quality and quantity. A great vintage ending in "9" and one of the hottest of the past decade.

The exceptionally mild and dry winter was marked by temperatures above average for the season. On 13 and 14 April, our vineyard, which benefits from the moderating influence of the estuary, was spared from frost. The rains in the two first weeks of June led us to fear the development of disease, but the vines remained in very good health, and we maintained our environmental course.

During the two heatwaves in June and July, our clay soils, and their great capacity to regulate water allowed the vines to avoid water stress. Full flowering, uniform and quick, took place during the first week of June. The first signs of colour change appeared from 30 July. A uniform veraison followed, slowed down by cool and rainy weather in August.



Vintage	Despite some intermittent rain harvest took place under good conditions from 19 September to 8 October. Our intra-plot picking followed by tailor-made vinification allowed us this year to obtain 80 batches of free-run wine and 7 batches of press wine for our blends. The high quality of the Merlot batches allowed us this year, as in 2009, to increase the proportion of this grape variety in the final blend to 30%
Vineyards	Made to the same rigorous standards as the first wine, from grapes grown in the same vineyard, La Dame de Montrose is the estate's second label. Supple and silky Merlot generally predominates in the varietal mix. Its very pronounced red fruit aromas and flavours reflect another expression of the terroir in a distinctive style which is less elaborately complex than that of the first wine.
Harvest	2019 was a very important vintage at Chateau Montrose, marked by the environmental approach undertaken by the team, the implementation of "green" cultivation practices out in the vineyards. This approach, coupled with the climatic conditions of the year, led to a very successful harvest, which began on September 19 and ended on October 8. The harvest was carried out on a plot-by-plot basis, with grapes from the different lots vinified separately.
Vinification/ Maturation	In the cellar, each vat has its own identity and the custom vinifications allowed the extraction of the best potential from each of them. This ultra-precise work resulted in a large palette of 50 different lots for the blending.
Tasting Notes	The Second Wine of Chateau Montrose, La Dame de Montrose is made from the same vineyard as the First Wine. Made mainly of Merlot, La Dame de Montrose offers another vision of the Saint-Estèphe terroir. With a great suppleness and dominated by notes of red fruits, this wine is very approachable in its youth.
Serve with	Best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Cellaring Scores/Awards	Drink 2022-2029 92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022 93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022 94 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022 94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020 94 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022 93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022 91 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022 91 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022 90 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020 93 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - February 2022 93 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022
Reviews	<p><i>"Very solid, with a core of lightly steeped plum and blackberry fruit, supported by a streak of iron and framed by smoldering tobacco and dark earth notes. Good energy throughout as well, with a mouthwatering echo at the end. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2023 through 2032."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Juicy and pleasantly chewy with milk chocolate, walnut and currant aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, creamy, and flavorful. Second wine of Montrose."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Generous nose filled with sweet blackcurrant fruit. This is dense and impactful, chewy with fine but grippy tannins making their presence known straight away. I love the texture though, it's mouth coating in the best way - refined, with bright berry fruit and liquorice edges, particularly on the finish. Everything feels in balance with plenty going on and lots to like. A blend of 48% Cabernet Sauvignon and 45% Merlot (which is unusual because normally there is a majority of Merlot) with 3% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot."</i> - GH, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"The Merlots were so good this year that most have gone into the first wine, giving this a higher percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon than usual, and making it a serious Dame de Montrose, with clear ageing potential. Elegant and balanced, with purity and juicy black fruits. It has that savoury Cabernet quality, which is very Médocain, this is absolutely one to look out for, packed with estate signature. 30% new oak. 43% of total production. 4% Petit Verdot completes the blend. Lovely new label here also, with rose gold roses across it."</i> - JA, Decanter.com</p>

Reviews *“Depth and power through the mid palate, good quality tannins, this is classically restrained St Estèphe power, with savoury yet juicy black fruits. Living up to its potential En Primeur, one to look out for, and a strong 2nd wine that beats out many 1st wines in the vintage. If you liked the Dame de Montrose 2010, get on board with this.”*

- JA, Inside Bordeaux

“Ripe sweet, dark red berries surrounded by cedar, tobacco wrapper, spice and wet forest aromatics is at work on the nose. On the palate there is more than ample, soft, ripe, sweet, crisp, elegant, earthy red fruits with a spicy touch on the backend to offer loads of pleasure with just a year or two of cellaring. This is a top vintage for La Dame de Montrose for drinking until the Grand Vin has a chance to develop and mature. Drink from 2024-2040.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2019 La Dame de Montrose, which I tasted in June and September 2021, has a fresh mulberry, black plum and granite-scented bouquet that is quite precocious; touches of morel appear in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins, quite structured and almost Pauillac-like, thanks to veins of graphite toward the finish provided by the 48% Cabernet Sauvignon. Saline on the aftertaste, though not tremendously long, this is a very promising Deuxième Vin. 2025 – 2043.”

- NM, Vinous

“The 2019 La Dame De Montrose is another impressive second wine and certainly worth seeking out. Ripe darker cherries, currants, leafy herbs, tobacco, and a hint of classic Saint-Estèphe damp earth all emerge on the nose, and it's medium-bodied, with a silky, graceful texture, light tannins, and a great finish. It's everything a second wine should be and will evolve nicely for 10-12 years.”

- Jeb Dunnuck
