

Château Meyney 2019

CSPC# 881227

750mlx6

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
General Info

57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 16% Petit Verdot
St.-Estèphe
Cru Bourgeois
<http://www.meyney.fr/en/wines>

Château Meyney is located in St. Estèphe and is owned by Dmes. Cordier. The 49-ha property produces on average 30,000 cases per year. Located in the east of the St. Estèphe appellation, next to Château Montrose, Meyney has a similar climate to that enjoyed by the Médoc: maritime, with the Gironde estuary and the Bay of Biscay combining to act as a climate regulator and the coastal pine forests sheltering the vines from the westerly and north-westerly winds.

Meyney is classified as a Cru Bourgeois.

The history of Château Meyney dates back to at least the 17th Century (although it is almost certainly much older) and was originally the site of a convent entitled the *Prieuré des Couleys*, occasionally also referred to as the *Couvent des Feuillants*. For much of the 20th Century the estate was part of the Cordier portfolio, quietly turning out good value wines, many of which were of remarkably high quality. No doubt this was in part due to the skill of Georges Pauli, better known for his sterling work at Gruaud-Larose, another Cordier property, who from 1978 oversaw the activity in the *chai* at Meyney.

As such the estate eventually came under the umbrella of Cordier-Mestrezat when the two *négociants* amalgamated. Here it formed part of a small portfolio of top estates also including Grand-Puy-Ducasse and Rayne-Vigneau. Over the years there have been many interested parties, most recently including the Vignerons de Val d'Orbieu, a leading Languedoc co-operative, who held a significant share in the business. In 2004 the Mediterranean investors sold out, and Cordier-Mestrezat saw some fresh and seemingly much needed investment from the French bank Crédit Agricole. This famous French financial institution acquired more than 400 hectares of vineyards, including Meyney, in exchange for 95 million Euros, leaving Cordier-Mestrezat one of the few debt-free businesses in Bordeaux. Today Meyney is thus under the ownership of *Crédit Agricole Grands Crus*, alongside Ducasse, Rayne-Vigneau and a handful of Cru Bourgeois estates also acquired by the French bank.

Winemaker
Vintage

Hubert de Boüard, consultant

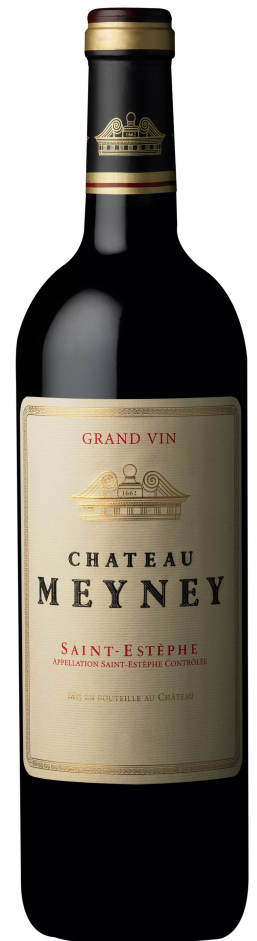
2019 is a very fine vintage, a solar one!

A dry and milder than average winter gave way to a rainy spring with cool nights. Bud burst and flowering therefore came relatively early. The vineyard remained in a very good state of health. As in 2016 and 2018, the summer was characterised by high temperatures, with a few scattered showers (two redeeming spells of rain in July and August). It is a vintage of the climate, as much as of the terroir. The grapes are excellent and with a richness that we would like to find every year...

Vineyards

Bud Break: around March 5th 2019; Flowering: around May 27th 2019; Ripening: around July 23

The Meyney vineyard is in a single plot, covering an impressive 51 hectares of the St-Estèphe appellation, adjoining those of near neighbours Montrose and Phélan-Ségur. It enjoys an attractive position on gravel ridges overlooking the Gironde, beneath which is a mix of iron-rich blue clay and sand, over calcareous bedrock from a depth of about two metres. It is planted with 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot and 9% Cabernet Franc, although there has been a replanting scheme ongoing in recent years, replacing the oldest vines, aimed at reducing the percentage of Cabernet Franc. They have an average age of about 35 years although this may fall a little with the ongoing planting, with a density of up to 7500 vines/ha. Once intensively fertilized, this is no longer the case, the soil left un nourished and merely ploughed each quarter to aerate it, although some lesser sections are interplanted with grass and are thus left untouched. The estate is moving towards a system of minimum intervention viticulture.



Harvest	Merlot: from September 24th to 30th 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon: from October 3rd to 11th 2019 Petit Verdot: from October 1st to 2nd 2019
Vinification/ Maturation	After hand harvesting, meticulous sorting in the vineyard, the grapes are sorted again using the latest generation optical sorting system. The grapes were vinified according to a plot-by-plot approach. Alcoholic fermentation was carried out after a few days of cold soak-maceration. For some of the wines, malolactic fermentation was carried out in new barrels. All of the first wine is matured in French oak barrels (35 % new barrels)
Tasting Notes	Lifted, floral and fresh on the nose. Some dark- and red-berry notes as well. Aromatically already intriguing. Smooth attack then plenty of juice, highlighted by the marked acidity (possibly due to a high percentage of Petit Verdot) and freshness. Firm tannic structure, the finish long, steely, and dry. An almost old-style classic, natural and without artifice.
Serve with	Chateau Meyney is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Meyney is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Meyney is also good with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta
Production	16,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink now-2024
Scores/Awards	<p>93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p>91 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>90-92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p>92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only)- April 2022</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p>93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - January 2020</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020</p> <p>94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p>92-95 points - Farr Vintners - May 2020</p> <p>92+ points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p>92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020</p> <p>91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2022</p> <p>91 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020</p> <p>94 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p>17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"A solid, slightly burly version, featuring streaks of tar and bay leaf mixed with dark plum and black currant preserve flavors. The finish is underscored by a warm paving stone note, which adds cut, drive, and a hint of old school. Best from 2024 through 2036. 16,000 cases made.</i></p> <p><i>- JM, Wine Spectator</i></p> <p><i>"Aromas of sweet cherries and berries mingled with tobacco, loamy soil and petals introduce the 2019 Meyney, a medium to full-bodied, seamless, and lively wine with fine depth at the core, powdery tannins, and an attractive sense of completeness. This is an understated, but charming Saint-Estèphe that has turned out nicely in bottle."</i></p> <p><i>- WK, Wine Advocate</i></p> <p><i>"Deep purple-black in color, the 2019 Meyney strides confidently out of the glass with classic notes of cassis, warm plums, and baked blackberries plus hints of cedar chest, bay leaves, pencil lead and clove oil plus a waft of underbrush. The medium to full-bodied palate has a generous core of ripe black fruits with a slight touch of oak poking through and a firm backbone of ripe, grainy tannins, finishing with impressive length."</i></p> <p><i>- LPB, Wine Advocate</i></p> <p><i>"Notes of ripe blackcurrants and blackberries, vanilla, licorice, and dark chocolate with touches of earthiness and nutmeg-like spice. Medium-bodied with ripe, velvety tannins and delicious fruit. Polished and refined. Try after 2023."</i></p> <p><i>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</i></p>

- Reviews** *“Aromas and flavors of blackberries and blueberries with walnut and coffee-bean notes. Medium to full body, integrated tannins, and a flavorful finish. Excellent, but not the 2018.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “From a reliable estate, this wine is firm in feel. It also has open black fruits that pair alongside the generous tannins. It is good long-term aging.”*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “One of the wines I use as a marker of how good the vintage is in St Estèphe, because it isn't classified but is in a brilliant location right next door to Montrose. And this is good, extremely concentrated, pure cassis and bilberry flavours, tons of tannins, clear austerity, and high acidity as I am getting in a lot of these 2019s. Not the same luscious character as 2018, but in many ways that makes it more typical of the appellation, and the alcohol seems less over the top than in 2018. Lots to enjoy here, not quite up to 2016 standard but not far. Tasted two weeks apart, and if anything, its expression had deepened second time around. Hubert de Bouard consultant. Drinking Window 2025 – 2038.”*
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Showing much better in bottle than it did from the barrel, the deeply colored wine is imbued with cigar box, tobacco leaf, spice, espresso, wet earth, and dark currants and blackberries. On the palate, the wine focuses on its medium/full-bodied core of ripe, sweet, dark red fruits, soft, tannins, and polished finish and its light kiss of chocolate in the endnote. Drink from 2025-2042.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Dark garnet in color, with a healthy sweetness to the cherry and raspberry fruits on the nose and palate. The wine is medium-bodied, fresh, and energetic”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Opaque purple in colour, with a nose of fresh blackcurrant and graphite. The palate is powerful and savoury, fresh bramble fruits intermingling with cedar and tobacco. The tannins are crunchy and mouthcoating, providing weight, structure, and mineral depth. A long, sinewy finish is bolstered by a burst of ripe cassis fruit.”*
- Farr Vintners
- “The 2019 Meyney has a well-defined, fragrant, floral bouquet of ample red currant and cranberry fruit, touches of pencil shaving and smoke emerging with aeration, followed later by the tertiary aspect that one associates with the appellation. The palate is medium-bodied with sappy black fruit, black pepper, and graphite, tightening toward the finish but still showing fine length. This is a very fine Meyney that may warrant a higher score down the line. 2024 – 2048.”*
- NM, Vinous
- “The 2019 Meyney is well defined on the bouquet, leaning a little more towards the red side of the fruit spectrum with raspberry, wild strawberry, and floral scents. The oak is neatly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with grainy tannins. It has a citric element from start to finish, a taut line of acidity with light spicy notes towards the finish that shares the brininess of stablemate Grand Puy Ducasse. Very fine. Tasted twice with consistent notes.”*
- NM, Vinous
- “Cassis, currants, ripe tobacco, and cedar pencil notes define the bouquet of the 2019 Château Meyney, a medium to full-bodied, concentrated Saint-Estèphe that shows the elegant, moderately concentrated, yet nicely structured and balanced style of the vintage. It's already accessible with a decant but will benefit from just a handful of years in the cellar and have 15 years or more of longevity.”*
- Jeb Dunnuck

Reviews *“This estate has been on a roll of late, and the 2019 Château Meyney is a terrific wine. Beautiful notes of crème de cassis, spicy oak, dried flowers, and dried tobacco all emerge from the glass, and this beauty is medium to full-bodied, with a seamless texture, ultra-fine tannins, and a great finish. Count me impressed. Not a powerhouse, it should drink nicely right out of the gate yet also evolve for 20 years or more.”*
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle lightening of the edges. Ripe berries, pickled cherries, vanilla, candied orange zest. Medium complexity, red cherries, a little rough, appears delicately over-extracted, mineral, will benefit from maturity.”
- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is aromatic, elegant, racy and offers intensity, finesse of the grain as well as a small complexity. It reveals notes of pulpy/fleshy cassis, ripe Boysen berry, small notes of ripe strawberry associated with fine touches of cherry/griotte, small juicy/pulpy red berries, violet as well as hints of iris, timut pepper, a racy minerality, fine hints of cardamom, incense, and sweet spices. The palate is fruity, well-balanced, aerial and offers a mineral frame, a good definition, juiciness as well as gourmandize, suavity, intensity, a beautiful finesse of the grain, roundness and precision. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/pulpy cassis, Boysen berry, small notes of wild strawberry associated with touches of raspberry, racy minerality as well as a very discreet hint of cardamom, tea, sweet spices, an acidulous plum, vanilla, chocolate, crushed almond and toasted. Good length. Tannins are elegant, well-built and structuring. A beautiful persistence.
- Vert de Vin
