

Château Les Ormes de Pez 2011

CSPC# 749580

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot
Appellation	St. Estèphe
Classification	Cru Bourgeois Exceptional
Website	http://www.jmcazes.com/en/chateau-ormes-de-pez/aoc-saint-estephe
General Info	<p>The origins of Château Ormes de Pez, date back to the eighteenth century. Château Les Ormes de Pez is one of St-Estèphe`s leading Cru Bourgeois properties. It was bought by Jean-Charles Cazes in 1936 and is now owned and run by Jean-Michel Cazes. The latter owns Lynch-Bages Situated on the edge of the hamlet of Pez in the northern part of the Saint-Estèphe commune, the property takes its names from a beautiful copse of great elm trees long since disappeared. The vineyard and winemaking techniques combine the best of tradition and modernity to give birth to harmonious wines of spicy and voluptuous character, true expressions of the terroir in their appellation.</p>
Vintage	2011 was a curious year with a remarkably warm and dry spring. Consequently, flowering took place early and in fine conditions. July was cool and saw some rain, while August was mixed, cooler than average overall but with some heat spikes and some storms. September was warm and dry, enabling the grapes to ripen fully.
Vineyards	The vineyards are located in two plots north and south of the village of St Estèphe, on the sand and gravel that is typical of the commune. There are 33 hectares in all, with 70% of the vines Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc and 20% Merlot. They have an average age between 25 and 30 years and are planted at a density of 9000 vines/ha.
Harvest	Harvest started on September 12th for the Merlot and on September 20th for the Cabernet Sauvignon. Two major stormy outbreaks on 1 September, punctuated by hailstorms, hit mainly the south of the Saint-Estephe appellation, and fortunately did not directly affect the heart of our vineyard. Intra-plot zoning, carried out using satellite imagery for the second year running, once again proved its worth by allocating an extension to ripening time over the most vigorous sections.
Vinification/ Maturation	The harvested fruit is destemmed and then vinification of de-stemmed grapes takes place in a restored stable, extensively renovated in the 1993, using stainless steel and temperature control. Malolactic occurs in vat, and the wine then sees fifteen months in second-hand barrels from Lynch-Bages, with several rackings. Barrels aren't alone in their travels between Lynch-Bages and Ormes de Pez, the Lynch Bages winemaking team, led by Daniel Llose, also looks after Les Ormes de Pez. There is no second wine. French oak barrels for 15 months (45% new wood)
Tasting Notes	The mouth is fleshy with good body, while the tannins prove supple and ripe. The full-flavoured finish is marked by an aftertaste of spicy notes.
Serve with	Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, stewed and grilled dishes
Production	18,500 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2012-2022
Scores/Awards	<p>90 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2014 89-92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2012 86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #212 - April 29, 2014 87-89 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #200 - April 25, 2012 89-91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2012 Review Only - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - January 2014 90-91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2012 91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 1, 2014 15.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - January 2015 16.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2012</p>



Scores/Awards **16+ (88) points** - Steven Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2012
87 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2014
88-89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2012
87 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - October 2013
87-89 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - May 2012
92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2012
15+ points - Farr Vintner - March 2012
88-91 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2012
88 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - April 2012
90 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only)
15.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
15.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)
15.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only)
15.5 points - Gault & Millau (score only)

Reviews *"Focused and pure, with a tight beam of red currant, lilac, singed balsa wood and iron that stays tightly coiled through the finish. Not big, but defined and persistent. Best from 2015 through 2021"*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"This has crunchy acidity, with herb-inflected plum, currant and cherry pit notes. Lots of aromas swirling here, with brisk length. Score range: 89-92"
- JS, Wine Spectator

"Owned by the well-known Cazes family of Lynch-Bages, this popular St.-Estephe has turned out a dark ruby/plum-colored 2011 with sweet cassis and black cherry fruit. A slightly short finish is present, but the wine has a good front end-loaded combination of fruit, extract and succulence. It's medium-bodied and tails off in the mouth, but it is well-made. Drink now-2019."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"An elegant, medium-bodied, front end-loaded effort, the dark ruby/plum-tinged 2011 Les Ormes de Pez offers attractive red and black fruits intermixed with dusty, loamy soil undertones, and medium body. This soft, consumer-friendly St.-Estephe should drink nicely for 7-8 years. It is a sleeper of the vintage."
-RP, Wine Advocate

"The 2011 Les Ormes de Pez is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot aged in 45% new oak. It has an intense, almost brutish bouquet that leaps out of the glass and grabs you by the lapels. It is sweet with cassis and blueberry jam aromas, a touch of graphite and scorched earth underneath. The palate has a tannic entry with a saline seam, edgy tannins that make this quite masculine with a sinewy finish. There is good substance here if not finesse, although there is fine persistency towards the finish. Tasted April 2012."
-NM, Wine Journal

"This is earthy and spicy, with a medium body, fresh acidity and a chewy finish. Needs two years at least to soften. Better in 2016."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"The wine shows very pretty fruit with spices and milk chocolate. Full body, with velvety tannins and an attractive finish."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This is a rich, full-bodied and complex wine. It shows dense tannins and equally dense fruits that are powered by the ripe black currant fruit flavors. There is a fresher component at the end, attractive and bright. Drink from 2017."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Blackish crimson. Rich, dark fruited and a little floral on the nose. Vanilla and spice too. Much more savoury on the palate. Chalky, dry tannins. A bit flat-footed and abrupt on the finish."
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

Reviews *“Meaty cassis. Firm, chewy, all structure at the moment. Dark and dense but not tough but making no effort to please. Though at the very end the fruit reappears as a reminder.”*

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

“Finely expressed cassis fruit, slightly leathery and firm, good ripe middle palate and will show well.”

- SS, Decanter.com

“This non-classified St Estèphe is often a bargain in Bordeaux, and fingers crossed that it will be so this year, too. It's a classic St Estèphe, but with a little more finesse than some. The tannic power is more than balanced by the succulent black fruits, sweet oak and fresh acidity. The austerity will soften with age. 10+ years.”

- TA, timatkin.com

“Oak, black raspberries, earth and stone notes are easy to find. The tannins show some rusticity and dryness in the slightly short, but soft finish.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“From the same technical team as Chateau Lynch Bages in Pauillac, blending 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. The wine will be aged in 45% new oak. 45 hectoliters per hectare, down about 5% from 2010. Earth, licorice, blackberry, oak and mineral essences. Medium/full-bodied and fresh with black raspberry and bitter chocolate notes in the finish”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Deep looking; strong blackcurrant aromas; resin; feels sturdy; Cabernet flavours dominate the palate with blackcurrant tones; ripe fruit here. Solid and sturdy if a little unexciting. Drink 2016-2026 87 UGC Oct '13”

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

[Earlier note] Deep and dense; saturated; legs, tight to rim; purple; more strawberry lift here; red fruit; some VA from oak; then cassis and blackcurrant; little more lifted; lots of blackcurrants and fruit compote; layers; sweet and ripe; lots of fruit on the palate – some crushed rocks and minerality; denser and more complete in the mouth than Phelan Ségur; more material [but less charm]. Nice finish. No bitterness here. Tasted UGC 3/4/13 and again 5/4/12 87-89”

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

“Owned and made by the Cazes family of Lynch Bages, this is a consistently good wine and deserving of cru classé status. 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, 41% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot with ageing in 45% new oak. This has a deep, nearly black colour. Spicy, oaky vanilla, mocha, and black cherry on the nose. Juicy and concentrated with plenty of cassis fruit complimented by spice and ripe tannins. Generous and structured. Should be excellent value.”

- Farr Vintners

“The black fruits on the nose feel quite ripe backed though by fresher bilberry. There is structure on the mid palate but although the tannins feel firm, they are not aggressive not holding back the fruit. Cassis and black cherry give some richness on the back palate.”

- Derek Smedley MW

“A firm dense wine with classic St Estèphe tannin structure - dense and firm, built for the long term. The mid palate has nice density and layers of flavours ranging from blackberries to tobacco. Moderately long finish. Tasted in Bordeaux, France. Maturity: Young.”

- JCL, asianpalate.com