

Château Phelan Segur 2019

CSPC# 742352

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	Saint-Estephe
Website	http://www.phelansegur.com/en/millesimes/
General Info	<p>In 1805, Bernard Phelan, an Irish wine broker settled in Bordeaux, acquired le Clos de Garamey, located in Saint-Estèphe, followed in 1810 by the Ségur de Cabanac estate to complement his first acquisition. The whole was called Château Ségur de Garamey. He thus created a magnificent wine-producing domain that remains practically unchanged today, apart the sale in 2010 of 20 hectares to Château Montrose. The particularity of Château Phélan Ségur is its original architectural design: the neo-classical main residence is not separated from the agricultural buildings but is extended by them. Since 1985, the vineyard has been running by the Gardinier family who bought it from the Delon family, owner since 1924. 2015 also marks the Gardinier family's 30th anniversary at the head of Phélan Ségur.</p>
Winemaker	Fabrice Bacquey – wine cellar master Michel Rolland, Julien Viaud - consultant winemakers
Vintage	<p>The summer of 2019 is marked by strong heat punctuated by storms and heat waves. Thanks to our terroir of clay-gravel in Saint-Estèphe, there was no major water stress. At the dawn of the harvest, we observe perfect sanitary conditions of our grapes. April to June: cool temperatures until mid-June. Rainfall in April and June was 35 and 42 mm above normal for these two months. Early bud burst and flowering. July to September: change in the weather from the end of June, making way for hot and dry conditions (marked out by storms and heatwaves). Absence of major water stress thanks to our clay-gravel terroir. Grapes harvested in a perfect state of health.</p>
Vineyards	<p>70 hectares. Average vine age is 35 years. The sale reduced the Phelan-Ségur vineyard from 90 hectares to 70 hectares. These 70 hectares are spread over four locations, with one-quarter planted next to the <i>château</i> and <i>chai</i>, the remaining three more distant. The <i>terroir</i> underfoot is an alluvial gravel mixed with a sandy clay, over a deeper bedrock of chalk. The vines are 55% Cabernet Sauvignon and 45% Merlot, and current replanting work is focusing on increasing the proportion of the former over the latter, although work in 2011 did include one small plot replanted to Merlot. The planting density is about 8500 vines per hectare.</p>
Harvest	from September 24 to October 10.
Vinification/ Maturation	<p>Once in the winery the fruit receives a high-tech treatment, with table-sorting, destemming, optical sorting, pressing and fermentation on a plot-by-plot basis in thermo-regulated stainless-steel vats; these were replaced in 2011, reducing their capacity from 210 hectoliters down to 115 hectoliters, thereby allowing more precise plot-by-plot vinification. Subsequently the wines undergo malolactic in a warmed room and then <i>élevage</i>, all undertaken in oak barrels, 50% new, sourced from five coopers, the principal source being Taransaud. 60% in new barrels for 18 months.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>The 2019 vintage expresses a nose of great complexity with aromas of ripe red fruits and some toasted and liquorice notes. On the palate, the remarkable thickness of the attack is perfectly matched by the fleshy and crisp fruit of the mid-palate. The harmonious blend remains taut thanks to a beautiful freshness at the end of the tasting and a great aromatic power. This is a generous vintage with exceptional tannic power supported by a volume of rare density.</p>
Serve with	<p>Chateau Phelan Segur is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, stewed and grilled dishes. Chateau Phelan Segur also makes a good match with several different Asian courses.</p>
Production	20,000 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2024-2038



Scores/Awards **94 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022
94+ points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022
92-94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020
96 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022
95-96 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020
93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020
17 points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - June 2020
16.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - December 2021
94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020
94 points - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022
94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022
93-95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020
93 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2020
90-93 points - Farr Vintner - May 2020
95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022
93-95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020
93+ points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022
93-95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020
95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022
93-95 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020
91 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020
93 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020
94-95 points - Vert de Vin - April 2020

Reviews *"Solid, featuring a good punch of dark blackberry and black currant preserve flavors, with bay leaf, charcoal and warm paving stone notes that keep it very grounded through the finish. Shows ample structure for the cellar, too. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2024 through 2038."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Is this the most over-performing estate in the Médoc? Director Véronique Dausse would surely riposte that it's simply performing at the level to which its well-situated vineyards and detail-oriented team entitle it; but in any case, the 2019 Phélan Ségur is a brilliant wine. Offering up aromas of cassis, sweet wild berries, rose petals, violets, licorice, and spices, it's medium to full-bodied, layered, and concentrated, with tangy acids, powdery tannins and a long, penetrating finish. This is another 2019 that en primeur purchasers can feel very pleased with."
- WK, Wine Advocate

"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2019 Phélan Ségur prances out of the glass with bold notions of blackcurrant pastilles, baked plums, and boysenberries, plus hints of chargrilled meats, lavender, tilled soil and cracked black pepper. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is like a tightly coiled spring, featuring loads of condensed black fruit and fragrant layers, framed by firm, grainy tannins, and seamless freshness, finishing with bags of energy."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"This is a very classically structured Bordeaux with blackcurrant, walnut, cedar, and hints of toasted oak. It's reserved now, but shows very serious, polished tannins. Persistent and powerful with fantastic length. Very precise. Try after 2025."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"The complexity and depth is fantastic in this beautifully crafted, refined red. Such poise, finesse, and length. Goes on and on. We will see if this is better than the outstanding 2018."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Now cured of its tendency to use too much wood, this estate is producing some finely structured wines. This vintage continues in that tradition, a wine that is packed with serious, concentrated fruits that are highlighted by bright acidity. There is great potential for aging here."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

Reviews *"56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc. Black almost to the rim. Very ripe black fruit, almost pruny, on the nose then fresher on the palate. Rich, dense, dark, a big wine with compact tannins filled out by the fruit. Really chewy and so not ready to be tasted, let alone drunk. It is in balance and savoury in its tannic depths but keep away for at least 15 years. (JH) 14.5%. Drink 2034 – 2042."*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"Fragrant nose with a floral, dark-fruit edge. Ripe and smooth but lifted, the tannins compact and very refined. Layers of fruit then a long, firm, persistent finish. In short, an elegant interpretation of St-Estèphe. (JL) Drink 2027 – 2040."
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

"Another impressive vintage at this estate, one that is regularly turning out wines to sit up and take notice of. A touch more austerity than was seen at this stage in the 2018, but the same level of intensity and concentration and just sheer confidence without trying too hard. Undertow of crushed granite and liquorice root, with real precision in the cassis fruits, and a wall of tannins that manage to be both present and unobtrusive. Great winemaking going on here. 56% new oak, 3.8pH, 1PT81. Could go higher when retasting in bottle. Tasted twice two weeks apart."
- JA, Decanter.com

"A ton of complexity is immediately apparent from the first time you wave your nose over the glass, from layers of black fruits to freshly grated nutmeg. On the palate, we are almost in Christmas cake territory, with plump juicy fruits, spiced liquorice, black pepper, and plenty of concentration. This is a brilliant wine, confident tannins, well delivered, will be ready to drink in four or five years, but will age for decades. Michel Rolland consultant. 56% new oak, 3.8pH, lives up to En Primeur expectations."
- JA, Inside Bordeaux

"Flowers, smoke, black fruit, red fruit, and blue fruit along with cedar and spice work well here. The wine has a solid depth of flavor packed with dark currants, polished, round textures, and a blast of chocolate-coated currants with mint and espresso in the rich finish. This could be the best vintage of Phelan Segur yet. Give it a few years in the cellar and it will be just great for 15 or more years after that. Drink from 2025-2042."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The nose grabs you with its cedar chest, forest floor, earth, herb, tobacco, spice, cigar box, and smoke aromas coupled with a load of just-picked blackberries. Round and smooth, with finesse, a big juicy blast of fruit and roasted coffee beans, this could be the best vintage of Phelan Segur yet. The wine blends 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc, reaching 14.5 alcohol, with no sensation of heat or overripe sensations."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2019 is a blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc - for the first time in 2019 since their planting in 2013 - which will be aged in 55% new French oak. A harvest from 24th September to 10th October resulted in an abv of 14.5%. Bright ruby in colour with a fresh nose of blackcurrant, blackcurrant leaf and cedar. The palate is crunchy and compact, with classic cedar, menthol, and fresh dark fruits. There is a peppery and slightly leafy, spicy finish that showcases freshness."
- Farr Vintners

"The 2019 Phélan Ségur has a very impressive nose of ample blackberry and boysenberry fruit, plus touches of graphite, sous-bois and light minty aromas. The palate is medium-bodied, harmonious, and poised, with substantial tannins and very good weight. There is a sense of completeness to this Saint-Estèphe that urges you back for another sip. The best Phélan-Ségur in a long time. 2025 – 2050"
- NM, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2019 Phélan Ségur has a very composed bouquet with detailed blackberry and briary scents, a touch of melted tar and cracked black pepper coming through with aeration. The palate is very cohesive with fine tannins, gentle grip, quite saline in the mouth with impressive density and harmony towards the finish. Quintessentially Saint-Estèphe, this is a superb Phélan Ségur that should not be under-estimated. Tasted twice. 2025 – 2050”*
- NM, Vinous

“The 2019 Phélan Ségur is a rich, heady wine. A burst of super-ripe dark fruit, grilled herbs, menthol, licorice, smoke, incense, and spice races across the palate. As good as the 2019 is, I liked it more en primeur. I find the bottled wine not quite as expressive, especially on the mid palate. Tasted two times. Drinking window: 2025 – 2039.”
- AG, Vinous

“The 2019 Phélan Ségur is marvelous. In fact, it is one of the best vintages I can remember tasting. Graphite, crushed rocks, menthol, licorice, crème de cassis and lavender are some of the many notes that flesh out in the glass. Wonderfully nuanced and layered, the 2019 Phélan Ségur is a wine of unreal depth and vivid intensity. In a word: impressive.”
- AG, Vinous

“Véronique Dausse continues to lift the quality at this estate. Her 2019 Château Phelan Segur reveals a dense purple color as well as a rich, full-bodied, powerful style on both the nose and palate. Loads of chocolaty dark fruits, roasted herbs, licorice, and graphite all emerge from the glass, and it's full-bodied, with a big, rich mid-palate, plenty of tannins, and beautiful length. This rich, age-worthy Phelan Segur is going to have some upfront appeal yet will benefit from 5-6 years of bottle age. Given the wealth of material, purity, and balance, this could end up being a real superstar of a wine. 93-95+.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“The 2019 Château Phelan Segur from Véronique Dausse is another brilliant Saint-Estèphe in the vintage, and this estate plays in the top handful of Saint-Estèphes out there. Offering lots of darker currants, spiced plums, Iron, tobacco, and damp earth on the nose, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a concentrated, tannic, yet balanced mouthfeel, and a great finish. It needs to be forgotten for a good 5-7 years and will be a brilliant wine over the following two decades.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate edge lightening. Spicy, black berry confit, tobacco, a hint of dark cherries and laurel, mineral touch. Juicy, elegant, pleasant fruit sweetness, ripe tannins, nougat on the finish, sticks, sure development potential.”
- Falstaff Magazine

“The nose is fruity, racy and offers power, a beautiful finesse of the grain and elegance. It reveals notes of ripe wild raspberry, ripe/fleshy cherry, small notes of fleshy small red berries associated with touches of cassis, violet, grey pepper as well as a hint of crunchy/juicy violet plum, a racy minerality/sense of the place, discreet hints of spices. The palate is fruity, racy, gourmand, elegant and offers a good definition, power full of delicacy, richness (in finesse), straightness, suavity, fat, a beautiful acidulous frame as well as harmony. On the palate this wine expresses notes of juicy/acidulous strawberry, juicy/acidulous cherry, small notes of small juicy red berries as well as hints of grey pepper, zan, nutmeg, very fine hints of vanilla (in the background) and sweet spices. Tannins are well-built, racy, and structuring. Good length.”
- Vert de Vin
