

Clos du Marquis 2006

CSPC# 763556

750mlx12

13.50% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Saint Julien
Website	http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/
General Info	<p>One of the oldest Medoc estates, Domaine de Léoville belonged to some of the wealthiest and most influential noble French families before it was acquired by the Las Cases family. The estate was split up between 1826 and 1840 as a result of the French Revolution. (Expropriation of emigrants' property and constitution of egalitarian redistribution). Château Léoville Las Cases was created, thanks to a kind of birthright, from 3/5 of the original estate and the heart of the domain.</p> <p>The Grand Vin's current <i>terroir</i> has therefore been at the historic heart of the original <i>terroir</i> since the 17th century. Pierre Jean, Adolphe, and Gabriel de Las Cases were successive heirs to the property until 1900, when Théophile Skawinski purchased a share in the estate and became its manager. Léoville Las Cases has now been managed by the same family since the late 19th century and is today represented by Jean-Hubert Delon, sole owner of the Château and proprietor of Château Potensac in the Medoc and Château Névin in Pomerol.</p> <p>Created in 1902, the Clos du Marquis has its origins in the "Petit Clos" adjacent to the Château de Léoville, home of the Marquis de Las Cases. It was created as a "brand", a second wine to Léoville Las Cases which would absorb the barrels not deemed fine enough for the grand vin. Over time it became a wine in its own right and since 1989 has been produced from separate parcels which lie outside Léoville Las Cases' main vineyards. The Clos du Marquis comes from the great <i>terroirs</i> of the Saint-Julien appellation that were not part of the former Léoville estate.</p> <p>These <i>terroirs</i> are located further west and surrounded by prestigious Crus Classés (Classified Growths) including Second Growths from the Saint-Julien and Pauillac appellations: Léoville Poyferré, Léoville Barton and Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande. The Clos du Marquis thus displays typical Saint-Julien characteristics: structure, complexity, balance, distinction, and great ageing potential.</p> <p>Clos du Marquis has the ability to challenge many other châteaux of the Medoc. Indeed, it is the equal of most 3rd, 4th and 5th Growths and has been an outstanding performer for many years.</p>
Winemaker	Jean Hubert Delon
Vintage	The spring of 2006 was very cool, but the nice weather in May gave an even blossoming. July was marked by ten very hot days whereas August was rather cool and dry. The first ten days of September were also dry and hot and then there was a rainy period before picking. When it came to harvest-time the dry weather had however returned and allowed the crop to be picked in good conditions
Harvest	From 21st September to 4th October 2006
Vineyards	As Clos du Marquis hails from a separate vineyard it is a separate cuvée – and not a Second Wine. The grapes are grown in the Petit Clos (Clos meaning an enclosed garden or field) which is surrounded on all sides by other Second Growths. The Petit Clos vineyard is to the south of the Leoville Las Cases Grand Clos vines and covers 12 acres. It is planted with 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc.
Vinification/ Maturation	At Leoville Las Cases, the wine making remains traditional. Grapes are harvested by hand and fermented in temperature-controlled wood, concrete, or stainless-steel vats of varying size. The stainless-steel tanks range from 40 hectoliters all the way up to 216 hectoliters. The oak vats also range in size from 176 hectoliters up to 270 hectoliters per vat. The oak vats also range in age, with the oldest vats dating back close to 50 years! Malolactic fermentation takes place in tank. Aged in 40% new oak.



Tasting Notes	The wine is dark crimson color. A wonderful aroma of the wine reveals notes of blackberry, mineral, violets, cherries, cassis, chocolate, cedar, and spicy oak. The wine has a rich, powerful flavor with a velvety texture, abundant fruit tones, hints of black cherry, licorice and spicy oak, fine tannins, excellent structure, and a long enough deep aftertaste.
Serve with	Wine perfectly complements venison, duck, lamb, turkey, beef.
Cellaring	Drink 2020-2035
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 2009</p> <p>92-95 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - June 2007</p> <p>89+ points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - May 2016</p> <p>90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #181 - February 2009</p> <p>90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2010</p> <p>87-89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - April 2007</p> <p>92-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2007</p> <p>91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 2009</p> <p>91-93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2007</p> <p>17 points - Decanter.com - June 2007</p> <p>16+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016</p> <p>15.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - January 2010</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2007</p> <p>89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2016</p> <p>90 points - Stephen Tanzer, Vinous - May 2009</p> <p>90-91 points - Stephen Tanzer, Vinous - June 2007</p> <p>91 points - Jean Marc Quarin - February 2009</p> <p>16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - March 2009</p> <p>16 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2011</p> <p>91-93 points - Falstaff Magazine - May 2007</p> <p>17 points - Bettane & Desseuve - May 2007</p> <p>17.5 points - Gault & Millau (score only) - May 2007</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Offers violet and blackberry on the nose, with tar. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a fruity, minerally aftertaste. Long and silky. Very serious for the vintage. Best after 2013."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Wonderful aromas of blackberries, minerals and dried flowers. Full-bodied, with a lovely core of cool fruit. Racy and caressing tannins. Excellent. 13.2 percent Cabernet Franc--more than normal. Better structured than normal, too. Score Range: 92-95."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"As usual, the second wine, the 2006 Clos du Marquis, exhibits a character similar to the grand vin, but it is a more fruit-forward effort with sweeter tannins, and a more precocious, evolved personality. With super intense black cherry and cedary notes intermixed with hints of licorice and barrique, this deep, medium to full-bodied, velvety-textured wine is ideal for consumption over the next 15+ years."</i> - RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2006 Clos du Marquis has a typical bouquet for this cru with forward and lavish black cherries, cassis and incense aromas, perhaps more oaky than some of its peers. The palate is medium-bodied with an insistent grip in the mouth. This is surprisingly backward with impressive density. You can feel the weight of black fruit in the mouth, although it needs more finesse and precision on the finish. Give this another five years and you could have a "dark horse" on your hands."</i> - NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Tasted blind at Southwold '06 Bordeaux tasting. Very reserved on the nose. Austere, a little leafy, some Marmite aromas coming through (from the oak?) This is what you might call a "tangy" bouquet. The tightly-wound palate is medium-bodied with saturate tannins, a little lower in acidity than other wines, engendering a harmonious, silky-smooth finish that just lacks personality at the moment...but that will come. Good length though, one for the cellar. Tasted January 2010."</i> - NM, Wine Journal</p>

- Reviews** *"Tasted at Léoville Las-Cases. Although I regard this as the second best second label in the Médoc, I cannot help feeling that the Clos du Marquis is a tad disappointing compared to the exquisite Grand Vin. Rather disjointed on the nose with an underlying greenness. Yet the palate is silky smooth, very focused although lacking some depth on the finish. Barrel ageing should round this out and add meat to the bones, but I was expected this to be scoring in the low 90's. Tasted April 2007."*
- NM, Wine Journal
- "Wonderful aromas of blackberries, minerals and dried flowers. Full-bodied, with a lovely core of cool fruit. Racy and caressing tannins. Excellent. 13.2 percent Cabernet Franc--more than normal. Better structured than normal, too."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "A beautifully perfumed, dark-colored wine, bursting with black plums and violet perfumes. It is, on the surface, delicious, but taste beneath that and it becomes complex and dark, with immense but velvet tannins, suggesting considerable potential."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "A blend of 50/50 Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, the second wine of Léoville Las Cases is well balanced, with soft black currant fruits, and just dry tannins. Great, fresh acidity to finish."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Tasted blind. Dark crimson and quite racy and fruity. Still a bit pinched on the end."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Very dark and brambly-looking. A bit burnt and tarry on the nose. Sweet and actually a little soft on the palate. Uncomfortably chabby and a little mean on the pre-finish (a Blotch term). Drink 2011-2018."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Second wine of Léoville Las Cases. Pretty dark crimson. Ripe black fruits with lift on the nose. Very racy. Sweet start, very fine tannins. Slightly green tannins but a definite polish. This year all the Cabernet Franc went into this wine even if most of the constituents for Léoville Las Cases and Clos du Marquis come from different parcels. A bit inky on the finish. Very much an also ran in 2006. One has the sense, because of its greenness, that it has swept up the offcuts. Bit of a skinny little thing."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Fine depth of classis St-Julien fruit with more structure and grip than in 2005, yet fleshy and succulent."*
- Decanter.com
- "Showing secondary notes of olive tapenade, cedar, cigar wrapper and juicy cassis, while firm in character, the wine can be enjoyed today with an hour or two of decanting."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Bright, full ruby-red. Ripe aromas of blackberry, kirsch, cedar and sexy oak. Rich, broad and pliant, with chewy, vibrant flavors of black fruits and licorice. This boasts excellent texture and depth for a second wine. Finishes with substantial dusty, fine tannins and excellent length. A serious and full vintage for Clos du Marquis, but less forbidding now that it's in bottle than a sample I tried from barrel last spring."*
- ST, Vinous
- "Full ruby-red. Currant, licorice, graphite and smoky oak on the nose. Juicy, serious and insinuating, with sweet currant and mineral flavors framed by ripe acidity and firm tannic spine. Finishes with noteworthy persistence and purity. This received almost all of the estate's cabernet franc in 2006. This is hardly your typical second wine--on the contrary, it's a rather Pauillac style of St. Julien that will likely require at least seven or eight years of cellaring."*
- ST, Vinous

Reviews *“Colored. Tobacco nose. And red fruit. Slender mouth beautiful touch, with a soft body. Good length without tannic harshness. Pleasant.”*

- JMQ

“This wine displays its own personality through the freshness of her dress, as through her bouquet with smoky notes and mentholated. Supple and elegant, the mouth leaves express already harmonious flavors which should gain in scale over time.”

- La Revue du Vin, France

“As always, the wine is complete but with a character different from Grand Vin, a little less oaky on the nose, less dense, less tight in its tannin and texture but superbly balanced, more openly fruity, complex, long. Peak: 2014 to 2026”

- Bettane & Desseauve

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections. Delicate honey on the nose, dark berry jam, blackberry jelly, some ripe figs. Juicy cherry fruit on the palate, full-bodied and complex, fine fresh acid structure, lively, sticks very well, fine chocolate melt, delicate roasted aromas, great length, high Cabernet Franc share.”

- Falstaff Magazine
