

# Clos du Marquis 1999

CSPC# 763556

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**Notes**  
**Website**  
**General Info**

65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot  
Saint Julien  
2<sup>nd</sup> wine of Ch Leoville Las Cases  
<http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/>

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.

The Grand Vin's current *terroir* has therefore been at the historic heart of the original *terroir* 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.

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 *terroirs* of the Saint-Julien appellation that were not part of the former Léoville estate.

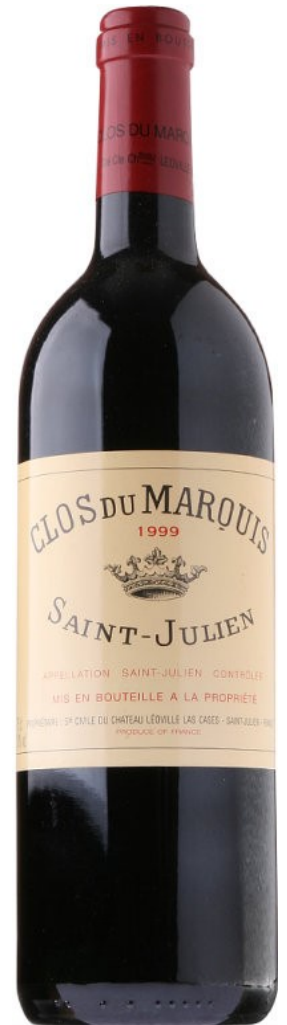
These *terroirs* are located further west and surrounded by prestigious Crus Classés (Classified Growths) including Second Growths from the Saint-Julien and Pauillac appellations: Léoville Poyferré, Léoville Barton and Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande. The Clos du Marquis thus displays typical Saint-Julien characteristics: structure, complexity, balance, distinction and great ageing potential.

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.

**Vintage** Will undoubtedly be bridesmaid to the 2000 vintage. However, the many customers who purchased the 1999s have pleasurable drinking experiences to look forward to. As so frequently happens in Bordeaux it was September rain which dashed hopes of a spectacular end to the millennium. Nevertheless 1999 is generally ahead of 1991, 1992 and 1993, in some instances surpassing 1994 and 1997 (Right Bank) and 1998 (Left Bank).

**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.



<b>Tasting Notes</b>	A classic Bordeaux with a huge personality. Full color development shows. In the nose showing some smoked wood supported by lovely ripe fruit. Hints of spices, chocolate and some leather tip to detect. The scent is very sophisticated. In the mouth a beautiful entrance. Lots of flavor: fruit, spices, nicely integrated wood, great elegance but still some tannin and this gives the wine firm structure. The wine has a good grip and concentration in the mouth. Although wine is now mature, it can still ripen a while. A classic Bordeaux with a stamp.
<b>Serve with</b>	Great with roast beef, rich coq au vin and mature cheeses (Edam, Gouda), Lamb, Game, Ham, Rabbit in mustard sauce.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2002-2015
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>90 points</b> - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010</p> <p><b>89 points</b> - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2002</p> <p><b>86 points</b> - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #140 - April 2002</p> <p><b>88-90 points</b> - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134- April 2001</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2011</p> <p><b>90-91 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - July 2002</p> <p><b>88 points</b> - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2006</p> <p><b>14 points</b> - Decanter.com - April 2005</p> <p><b>16.5 points</b> - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2004 (score only)</p> <p><b>15 points</b> - Farr Vintner - June 2000</p> <p><b>89 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)</p> <p><b>15.5 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Delivers wonderful sweet fruit on the nose, with plenty of flowers and currant. Full-bodied, featuring chewy tannins and lots of fruit. This is chewy and structured still. Very serious for the vintage, but offering some polish, too. —'89/'99 Bordeaux blind retrospective (2009). Drink now."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Succulent and ripe red. Pretty and aromatic, with floral and berry character. Medium-bodied, with juicy, soft tannins. Long finish. Best after 2003."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 1999 Clos de Marquis reveals sweet black currant fruit on the attack, but the finish is tannic and compressed. Drink it over the next decade."</i> - RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"An opaque ruby/purple color is followed by sweet black currant, lead pencil, mineral, and spicy oak aromatics. This medium-bodied 1999 should be delicious upon release. Anticipated maturity: 2002-2015."</i> - RP, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Tasted at Roberson's Las-Cases vertical. Poured from magnum, compared to the 2000, the '99 is also relatively youthful but does not exhibit nearly the same level of complexity or breeding, with blackberry, cedar and a touch of spice. Like the nose, the palate is a little softer than the 2000 with clean crisp tobacco-laced dark fruit with a very linear, quite tannic finish though without quite the fruit concentration to transcend the vintage. Very fine. Drink now-2020. Tasted February 2011."</i> - NM, Wine Journal</p> <p><i>"More restrained than Clos du Marquis 2001. Little on the nose; the palate is tight with firm tannins. More structure than 2000 and good grip, but it will need two or three years to soften. A sinewy wines that requiring some cellaring. Very classy. Tasted July 2002."</i> - NM, Wine Journal</p> <p><i>"Deep red-ruby. Currant, cedar and tobacco on the nose. Penetrating and firm; a shapely wine with moderate flesh and sweetness but very good balance and structure for the vintage. Finishes with supple tannins and very good length."</i> - ST, International Wine Cellar</p>

**Reviews** *"Lots of relatively simple, open fruit but not much finesse. A certain greenness on the finish."*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*"Perfumed and juicy, with violet-cream sweetness."*  
- Decanter.com

*"Deep colour, this is not really a second wine but a serious St Julien of classed-growth quality. Firm, needs time."*  
- Farr Vintners

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