

Château Gloria 2010

CSPC# 750191

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
General Info

63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot.
St. Julien

While many Bordeaux Chateaux have long histories in the region, especially in the Medoc, that is not the case with Chateau Gloria. In fact, it's a relatively new estate that when compared to its peers, was born quite recently. You could say, Chateau Gloria dates back to 1903, but that is not exactly the case. The creator of Chateau Gloria, Henri Martin was born in 1903. Martin had a background in Bordeaux wine before his first birthday. His birth took place at a neighboring St. Julien estate, Gruaud Larose. Henri Martin was born on the property. background since the day he was born. Obviously, Henri Martin was destined for life in wine. During the war, in 1942, Henri Martin purchased 6 hectares of vines located in the Left Bank in the St. Julien appellation. The vines were previously the property of Chateau Beychevelle. Martin made the purchase on the advice of his friend, Jean-Charles Cazes. Cazes is the father of Jean Michel Cazes of Chateau Lynch Bages. That early purchase eventually grew into Chateau Gloria. It took time, but eventually they able to cobble together a total of 48 hectares for Chateau Gloria. Forty years after he created Chateau Gloria, Henri purchased his first 1855 Classified Growth, Chateau St. Pierre, also located in St. Julien. Aside from the classified growth, Chateau St. Pierre, which we already mentioned, they also produce the following wines; Bel Air from Haut Medoc, Pey Martin from St. Julien and Haut Beychevelle Gloria, which comes from St. Julien as well.

Vineyards

A vineyard covering 50 hectares, with an average vine age of 40 years, spread across three areas, in the middle of Beychevelle and then in the west and the north of the appellation (bordering Pauillac) on soil made up of Gunzian gravel covering a layer of clay and sand. The grapes are 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot.

**Vinification/
Maturation**

Once the grapes have been picked by hand, the harvest is vinified in the traditional way in heat-regulated stainless-steel vats, in order to produce truly exceptional wines which can be laid down for a long time. The wine then spends 14 months being aged in casks, with an average of 40% of them being replaced every year.

Tasting Notes

Chateau Gloria is a lighter style of St. Julien that is often ready to drink within a few years of release. The 2009 was the best wine produced at this Medoc estate I have ever tasted until the 2010 Gloria was produced! Chateau Gloria is a Bordeaux wine popular with consumers for its early drinkability, character and fair prices. It's a contender for the best Bordeaux value wine from the St. Julien appellation. Violet aromas, very fleshy, magnificent volume on the palate, harmonious, creamy, a real fruit bomb, as the Americans say, and the most engaging of the recent Gloria vintages.

Production

cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2013-2023

Scores/Awards

- 92 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2013
- 93-96 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011
- 93 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013
- 91-93 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - April 2011
- 95 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2013
- 94-96 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011
- 92 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2013
- 90 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 1, 2013
- 91-93 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 25, 2011
- 88-91 points** - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2011
- 17.5 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2012



Scores/Awards **17 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2011
17.5 points/4 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2011
94+ points - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2012
86-89 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2011
15.5+ points - Farr Vintner - April 2011
Review only - Alex Shaw, JJBuckley Wines - April 2011
90 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2011
92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2011 (score only)
92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 8, 2013
88-90 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2011

Reviews *"Juicy and direct, with a relatively friendly feel to the plum, blackberry and blueberry fruit, all coated with a ganache note that hangs through the finish. Surprisingly accessible, and not quite as grippy as when tasted from barrel. Drink now through 2023."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Mouth filling, with a core of plum and black currant fruit that expands in the mouth, while tobacco, graphite and roasted fig notes filling in. Long, with a dark tarry edge on the finish. Score range: 92-95"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2010 Gloria is an ass-kicking, fabulous value once again from this estate, which would probably be classified if the 1855 hierarchy of the wines of the Medoc were ever done again. Abundant notes of cedar wood, fruitcake, flowers, creme de cassis and kirsch are all present in this full-bodied, opulent, dense, dark ruby/purple wine. It is slightly more restrained than the flamboyant 2009, but equal in quality. This is a juicy, well-proportioned, sensationally concentrated, super-ripe Gloria to drink over the next decades. Of course, it is a sleeper of the vintage, given the reasonable price it normally sells for."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"A sensational effort, the 2010 Gloria may turn out to be the finest wine they have made since 1982, although the 2009 is a serious contender for that honor as well. A bigger than life as well as more backward than normal offering, the 2010 exhibits an inky/purple color along with an opulent display of black currants, jammy cherries, licorice, cedar and roasted herbs. Some serious tannin gives the wine grip, but this is a full-bodied, big, thick, well-proportioned, super-endowed Gloria that will benefit from 2-3 years of cellaring and keep for two decades."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the Union de Grand Cru in London. The Gloria 2010 leaps out of the glass: blackberry, boysenberry, cedar and graphite aromas that are pure and beautifully defined. This palate does not disappoint mineral rich black fruit, a saline tang, hints of sous-bois and a beautifully controlled but intense graphite finish that reminds me of Ducru-Beaucaillou. This is an outstanding Saint Julien from an estate that has produced a clutch of high performing wines in recent years. Perhaps the greatest Gloria ever made? Tasted November 2012."

- NM, Wine Journal

Tasted at a negociant, the Gloria '10 has a well-defined bouquet, very precise with ripe blackberry, raspberry, cedar and graphite. Good intensity, very crisp and focused. The palate is medium bodied with chalky tannins, very good acidity, reserved and focused with a very powerful finish of blackberry, graphite and tobacco. Long in the mouth, this is a great Gloria for long-term ageing. Tasted April 2011. "

- NM, Wine Journal

"Impressive concentration for this appellation with aromas of prunes, plums and black pepper. Full body, with round and velvety tannins and a long finish. Tight. Better after 2015."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"The wine shows considerable new-wood influence at this stage. However, this wood emphasis brings out polished fruit that is deliciously smooth and blackberry-like in profile. This is likely to develop relatively quickly."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"91-93 Smooth, velvet tannins are the surface of this concentrated wine. It is very juicy, ripe, then rounded by the tannins. Structured and delicious at the same time."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

Reviews

“Deep opaque ruby. Intensely fruity, fragrant aromas of blackcurrant and blueberry pie complicated by hints of cinnamon and bay leaf. Then minerally and clean on the palate, with pure flavors similar to the aromas. The aromatically persistent finish is slightly chewy due to youthfully backward but polished tannins. A very stylish, successful Gloria that will age well, though it’s already pretty irresistible now.”

- ST, International Wine Cellar

“Dark, toasty oak does not stop the pure dark fruit, mildly herbal, shining through. Lovely combination on the palate of savoury dark fruit and cool freshness. Full flavoured in a taut and elegant framework with a touch of leafy fragrance at the very end. Delicious. (Score: 17.5 20)”

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Very dense crimson. Tobacco and leather and very serious stuff. Dense and rich and sweet on the palate after a more classically styled St-Julien nose. Very appealing even if a little more astringent than a top St-Julien. Tasted blind 8 Apr: Dark and rich and very upright. Beautifully balanced, dry and cool without being austere of drying. The fruit is succulent and yet the framework is there. Very luscious indeed but very 2010. Very firm mineral finish. Long”

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Deep cassis fruit, already a fragrant and lifted nose, refreshing Cabernet flavours and good length, the quality of a Cru Classé. Drink 2017-28.”

- SS, Decanter.com

“Beautiful violet rim, spicy and inviting nose. A hit of sweet fruit on the attack, leading to a tunnel of tannin and freshness in the mid-palate. Clearly there is alcohol, and clearly built to last, but with grace. Should be great value, as unclassified but wonderful quality, from owner Jean-Louis Triaud. 94+/100. Drink 2020-2040.”

- JA, The New Bordeaux

“With ample ripe blackberry, chocolate, spice and espresso, this tannic, powerful vintage of Gloria is built to age and evolve. It has the depth and structure to improve for years. From a blend of 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot, this is one of the best buys from St. Julien in this vintage.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Deep and dense; attractive nose, nice cassis and blackcurrants; some layers; some Cabernet freshness; grip and flesh. Pretty good 87-89/100 Tasted 5 April 2010 at UGC. [Second tasting] Deep and dense; lots of blackcurrant cassis, real fruit and quite voluptuous and full; lots of ripeness; some stalky Cabernet notes; quite blackcurrant fruit on the palate; chewy palate, bit chunky finish– will probably round out 88-90/100 Tasted 7 April 2011 at UGC.”

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

“Both nose and palate are firm red fruited and rather closed down. The palate has a mix of freshness and sweetness with the firmness of the tannins becoming very apparent and holding back the fruit towards the finish. It seems to be lacking fruit richness and charm.”

- Derek Smedley MW

“This Chateau was created in the 1950's by the late Henri Martin who was also the regisseur of Chateau Latour. Consequently, it does not appear in the 1855 classification but surely would if it were ever updated. Quality has improved massively in the last few years and this is a top St Julien performer these days. 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot and 26% Merlot. 40% new oak. Sweet, ripe nose. On the palate it is quite chewy and dense with mocha and cassis flavours. Solid and intense with a nice touch of spice. Good St Julien.”

- Farr Vintners

Reviews *“63% cabernet sauvignon, 26% merlot, 5% cabernet franc, 6% petit verdot. 60% new oak. Along with the tremendous Saint Pierre, the Gloria embodies all that Saint Julien did right in 2010. The black cherry and blackberry on the nose are complemented by just the right amount of wild herbs and earth, offering complexity but balancing the fruit without overpowering it. Massive yet beautifully structured on the palate, the tannins are big and silky, coating the mouth and carrying the fruit through to a finish that goes on for minutes. Bright acidity provides a lift to the wine, and as the tannins subside just a bit over time, this is going to be an absolute rock star of a wine. One of the best releases ever from Gloria. Give it a decade, and then drink it over the 2-3 decades that follow. Tasted twice.”*

- AS, JJ Buckley Wines
