

Château Langoa Barton 2021

CSPC# 866171

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	Saint Julien
Classification	3rd Grand Cru Classé
Website	https://www.langoa-barton.com/
Sustainability	Certified in HVE – High Environmental Standards, Level 3. No herbicides – we plough entirely. Use of Organic matter – 75% comes from composting our residues.
General Info	<p>The Barton family, the current owners of Chateau Langoa Barton, are able to trace their Bordeaux roots all the way back to 1722. That was the year that Thomas Barton left Ireland and made his way over to Bordeaux. Like many successful owners, Thomas Barton started out as a Bordeaux negociant, or wine merchant. The first foray into ownership for the Barton family was in St. Estèphe, with Chateau Le Boscq in 1745. The family continued being active in not only buying and managing Bordeaux chateaux in the Medoc, but as successful wine merchants. They eventually partnered with another powerful Bordeaux family to form a massive Bordeaux wine negociant company, Barton & Guestier. Founded in 1745, the firm of Barton and Guestier is still active in the Bordeaux wine business today. The next major purchase in the Left Bank for the Barton clan took place in 1821. That was the year they bought their next Saint Julien estate, Pontet-Langlois. Shortly after the sale, they renamed it, Chateau Langoa Barton. In 1929 Ronald Barton inherited the chateau and in 1983 handed the property over to Anthony Barton who still runs the property. Stablemate of Château Léoville-Barton, whose wine is made in the same cellars.</p> <p>Following the purchase of Langoa Barton, they bought a second, St. Julien estate. Culled from the vineyards of Leoville Las Cases, that estate became Chateau Leoville Barton. Interestingly, because no cellar or wine making facilities came with the purchase, they were forced to make both wines at Langoa Barton.</p>
Winemaker	François Brehant. Consulting oenologist: Eric Boissenot
Vintage	<p>The mild and rainy winter awakens the vines in a homogeneous way with an early ripening. A few plots of merlot in the lowest part of the hilltops of the estate are impacted by the frost during the month of April. The spring was not sunny but rainy until the end of May. This imposes a slow pace of growth.</p> <p>At the beginning of June, the return of sunlight and the sudden spike in temperatures ensures the smooth flow of the flowering on almost the entire estate. Some merlots, the most sensitive ones, are affected by “couleur”.</p> <p>Mid-June, from the fruit set, a capricious weather forecast punctuated by a number of rainy episodes will be installed until the end of the “veraison” at the beginning of August. It will be necessary to wait for the summer to be finally here with 4 weeks of magical weather which could permit us to catch up with the delay of the ripeness. The right ripeness of the plots only arrives the last week of September.</p> <p>At the beginning of October, the cabernet sauvignon expresses at last their full potential, the freshness and tension remind us of historical great vintages.</p>
Label	The chateau is celebrating 200 years in 2021 with a special label. 2021 - the label commemorating the bicentenary pays tribute to this story in four parts: Origin, Heritage, Nature, and Evolution. Four drawings on one label, each representing the history and the key events of our family, linked together by two powerful symbols: the vine with its production of wine embodying the cycle of life, and filigree wrought ironwork.
Vineyards	The plots that compose the Château Langoa Barton terroir overlook the river. The splendid slopes of quaternary gravel bring the grapes to full maturity and then they undergo a rigorous selection process before being chosen for the Langoa Barton. The plowing is traditional, without weeding or herbicide. The grape varieties are Cabernet Sauvignon 57%, Merlot 34%, and Cabernet Franc 9%.
Harvest	The harvesting is done entirely by hand. From 27 of September to 7 October



Vinification	The harvesting is done entirely by hand. After the destemming, the berries are carefully sorted, crushed and poured in wooden vats thermo-regulated, according to their plots. The alcoholic fermentation lasts from 7 to 10 days and the extraction is always respectful of the juice by adjusting the number of pumping depending on the cuvées and the vintages. The maceration is about 3 weeks then the juice is drawn in barrels, lot by lot. The wine is then aged between 16 and 18 months in French oak barrels of which 60% are brand new, in a cellar maintained at 15 °. The wines are topped up 3 times a week to avoid any contact between the wine and the air, the racking is traditional using the so-called "à l'esquive" method.
Tasting Notes	Deep crimson. Fresh dark cherry, blackcurrant wax polish aromas and flavours, plentiful fine velvety firm, slightly brambly tannins, some dark chocolate/ espresso notes. Finishes firm with an inky plume. Should build more richness with age. 61% cabernet sauvignon, 36% merlot, 3% cabernet franc. 18 months in around 60% new French oak. 13% alc
Serve with	Chateau Langoa Barton is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Production	7,700 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2025-2045
Scores/Awards	<p>88 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - January 2024</p> <p>93 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024</p> <p>92-94 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p>89-91 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p> <p>93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p>16.5 points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2022</p> <p>93 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - March 2022</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Inside Bordeaux - May 2022</p> <p>91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2024</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2022</p> <p>92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>92-95 points - Thomas Parker, Farr Vintners - April 2022</p> <p>93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2024</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022</p> <p>92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024</p> <p>92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2024</p> <p>17.5 points - Matthew Jukes - August 2022</p> <p>93 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>93-94 points - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2022</p> <p>92 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - Terres de Vins (score only) - April 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - Vert de Vin - July 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - May 2022</p> <p>92-93 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Direct, delivering a modest core of plum and black cherry notes tinged with hints of dried violet, warm earth, and apple wood. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2028. 7,700 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2021 Langoa Barton offers up attractive aromas of dark berries and plums mingled with sweet spices and cigar box. Medium to full-bodied, fleshy, and seamless, it's polished and fleshy, with an enveloping core of fruit, beautifully refined tannins and well-integrated acids. Drink 2025-2045."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The first vintage vinified in the Barton family's new winery, the 2021 Langoa Barton is immensely promising, offering up aromas of cassis, cigar wrapper, loamy soil and black truffle, followed by a medium to full-bodied, velvety and seamless palate that's deep and complete, its vibrant core of fruit framed by ripe tannins and lively acids."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p>

Reviews

"The 2021 Langoa Barton, the first year to be made in the new cellar, is a blend of 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc. Deep garnet-purple in color, it tumbles out of the glass with expressive notes of fresh blackcurrants, black cherries, and black raspberries, plus suggestions of clove oil, lilacs, and fallen leaves. Medium-bodied, the palate is tightly wound with firm, grainy tannins, and bags of bright red berry flavors, finishing long, and lifted."

- LPB, Wine Independent

"A medium-bodied red with redcurrant, crushed-stone, and earth character, following through to fine tannins and a polished finish. Balanced."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc. Cask sample. More restrained than some aromatically, but there's fruit and freshness with a structure in behind. Touch of cassis as it opens. Some oak as well but should integrate. Grippy tannins on the finish. Drink 2027 – 2038."

- JL, JancisRobinson.com

"A dark, brooding nose, full of bramble fruits and cherry chocolate drops. Tannins are to the fore; they coat the mouth giving a chewy, supple texture lifting the bright strawberry, bitter raspberry and juicy red cherry fruits and giving this an air of knitted tension - all delivered in one straight line. I like the focus, it doesn't waver from start to finish and is intense the whole way also with sweet cedar, clove and cinnamon edges to the finish which gives nuances and depth. Good effort."

- GH, Decanter.com

"Bright plum in colour, this is skillfully expressed, austere but present red cherry and blackberry fruits, strict tannic structure that opens through the mid palate to allow some juice and sandalwood smoke to run through the fruit. This has less of the exuberant depths that we have seen in Langoa in recent vintages, a little more old school overall, but will age, and has appellation signature. 60% new oak. Technical director François Brehant, consultant Eric Boissenot. The 2021 vintage features a special-edition label to mark 200 years of family ownership (the oldest of any 1855 estate)."

- JA, janeanson.com

"Bright, crisp, red berries accompanied by cedar, mint, and tobacco notes that show all over the place is what you find here. Medium-bodied, fresh, and forward, this is probably the earliest drinking Langoa I recall tasting. The bottle is adorned by a one-time-only special label that commemorates the families 200 years of ownership, which is an amazing and beautiful accomplishment that deserves recognition in todays, ever-changing world. Congratulations to the Barton family. The wine blends 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc. Drink from 2025-2048."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Peppery spices, herbs, and red currants come through on the nose and palate. This is a solid example of classic, medium/full-bodied, Bordeaux focused on its bright, crisp, red fruits, freshness, and peppery spice in the endnote. The wine blends 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, and 3% Cabernet Franc. For Langoa Barton, a wine that normally takes quite a bit of time to be fun to drink, you can enjoy this quite early. Fans of Langoa Barton should take note that the wine will be released with a special, one-off label commemorating 200 years of ownership by the Barton Family! Drink from 2025-2047."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The yield here of 39 hl/ha is actually a touch up on last year. Lilian feels it is a bit better than the 2017 and similar to the 2008 - but fresher. Made from 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc. Deep ruby colour. There is good depth for the vintage here, with forest fruit and deeply savoury wood smoke on the nose. The palate follows, very Cabernet in character with blackcurrant fruit, but with the added fleshy roundness of Merlot to soften the structure. Persistently chalky with a deep drive, the cedary, pure black fruit on the long finishes promises another fine Langoa Barton in 2021."

- TP, Farr Vintners

Reviews

"The 2021 Langoa Barton comes in a specially designed, one-off, hand-drawn label and a sustainable cardboard box instead of wood, to celebrate the bicentenary of family ownership. The aromatics have actually moved up a step since I tasted it from barrel: intense blackberry and wild strawberry fruit, crushed violet and just a hint of eucalyptus. The oak is neatly integrated. The palate is medium-bodied with surprisingly plush black fruit, a suave and harmonious Langoa with a dash of spice toward the finish. This is packed full of flavor and will be difficult to resist in its youth."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2021 Langoa Barton was picked 27 September until 7 October, matured in 60% new oak. Analysis shows 13.03% alcohol. It has a well-defined bouquet with expressive Merlot this year. Hints of blood orange/orange sorbet percolate through the red fruit. It has a skip in its step. The palate is medium-bodied with a taut and fresh entry. Plenty of sapidity here, oyster shell tinged with a well-defined and quite persistent finish. Lovely length, this is quite a gorgeous Saint-Julien that will age beautifully in bottle."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2021 Langoa Barton is a pretty, supple wine that will drink well right out of the gate. Pliant tannins wrap around a core of red/purplish fruit, spice, rose petal, leather, and cedar. Bright and perfumed, with lovely balance and fine, classic proportion, the 2021 is pure class."

- AG, Vinous

"Released in a special bottle celebrating the château's 200-year anniversary, the 2021 Château Langoa Barton checks in as 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc, with the élevage spanning 18 months in 60% new barrels. It offers a healthy purple/plum hue to go with impressive depth and richness in its darker currants, spicy oak, and cedar pencil/graphite-like aromatics. With medium-bodied richness, terrific mid-palate depth, and a broad, layered, mouth-filling texture, it deserves 4-6 years of bottle age and will cruise over the following two decades in cold cellars. It's another terrific wine from this château. Tasted twice with consistent notes."

- Jeb Dunnuck

"Langoa is on a roll of stunning releases, and in 2021 the Merlot seems to add flair and a touch of glitz to the beautiful backbone of Cabernet. Smooth, classy, and controlled, this is a thrilling wine and one that will be sure to enchant the senses while, hopefully, not breaking the bank! 17.5."

- Matthew Jukes

"Dark, almost opaque ruby core, purple reflections, subtle brightening on the rim. Very inviting bouquet of orange zest with fine nuances of cassis and blackberries. Medium body, ripe cherries, fine tannins, light-bodied, highly accessible, versatile style of wine."

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

"The nose is fruity, elegant, racy and reveals a certain intensity in finesse, fine/precise grain, and freshness. There are notes of fresh/crunchy blackcurrant, raspberry and more lightly ripe cherry combined with hints of camphor/graphite, salinity, a fine touch of pepper, a discreet almost roasted character. The palate is fresh, mineral and reveals good definition, juiciness, freshness, a nice finesse of grain, precision, gourmandize, a certain purity of fruit, a nice sapidity/salinity. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh cherry/blossom, raspberry and, more lightly, small fresh wild berries, combined with touches of racy/saline (even iodine) minerality, as well as fine nuances of fresh blackberry, a discreet hint of liquorice, camphor, and a subtle touch of toast and mocha."

- Vert de Vin
