

# Château Leoville du Marquis de Las Cases 2019

CSPC# 866173

750mlx6

14.02% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc.
<b>Appellation</b>	Saint Julien
<b>Classification</b>	Second Growth. Deuxième Grand Cru Classe in 1855.
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.domaines-delon.com/ajax/pdf.php?id=274">https://www.domaines-delon.com/ajax/pdf.php?id=274</a>
<b>General Info</b>	Chateau Leoville Las Cases is a second growth Bordeaux estate located on the northern end of the Saint-Julien appellation adjacent to the Gironde River. Leoville Las Cases is a perfect example of why the 1855 Bordeaux classification desperately needs to be updated. Although rated a second growth, Leoville Las Cases consistently produces wine of first growth quality. Like its next-door neighbor, Chateau Latour, Leoville Las Cases maintains a reputation for making stellar wine even in difficult vintages. It is the undisputed crown jewel of St. Julien, and unequivocally one of the best wines in Bordeaux.
<b>Winemaker</b>	Jean Hubert Delon
<b>Vintage</b>	2019 displayed sharp weather contrasts on the whole left bank. The year began with a wet and dry winter, then experienced a particularly cold spring. The hot, dry summer then stabilized growth and perfected the ripening of the berries. The alternation of hot days, cool nights and rainy periods allowed a superb ripening, a very high tannic and phenolic concentration while safeguarding a beautiful acidity. The harvest had to be carried out with meticulousness and perseverance. The fruit we picked kept its promises: perfectly ripe, dense, and powerful Merlots, rich and noble Cabernets.
<b>Vineyards</b>	The vineyards of Léoville-Las-Cases lie in the northernmost tip of the St Julien appellation, abutting the Gironde, and only separated from those of Château Latour to the north by the <i>Juillac</i> , which drains into the <i>Gironde</i> . Whereas the other Léoville vineyards, those of Barton and Poyferré, consist of a patchwork of numerous plots, those of Las-Cases are largely concentrated in this single block. This is the <i>Grand Clos</i> , a walled vineyard, the stone wall contiguous with that running around Latour, the highlight of which is the stone archway surmounted by the lion of Las-Cases, which can also be found above the doorway to the tasting room at the <i>château</i> (above), and which also graces the label. Totalling over 200 acres, Leoville Las Cases vineyards are comprised of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5% Merlot, and .5% Cabernet Franc.
<b>Harvest</b>	18th September to 8th October 2019
<b>Maturation</b>	The fruit is harvested by hand, usually by a team of workers from Spain, before transport to the <i>chai</i> , where the berries are destemmed before a gentle pressing and then fermented under temperature-controlled conditions. The fermentation vessels include a fascinating mix of wooden, cement and stainless-steel vats. When finished the wine is pumped from the <i>chai</i> to the barrel cellar on the other side of the road through an underground pipe. Aged in 85% new oak barrels.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	The 2019 Château Léoville-Las-Cases is a stellar effort" (...) A very pure, fresh, and almost understated nose, with a focused purity of fruit, led by blackcurrant, damson and white peach, with a little citrus freshness which adds a fabulous lift to the nose. It all feels elegantly integrated, which translates nicely onto the palate, beautifully textured at the start, with a seamless polish to the upper layers, layers of dark fruits including black cherry, damson, and currant beneath, touched with sooty notes but also more floral elements too. This all sits enmeshed within a frame of ripe, very elegant, and fine tannins which coat the mouth through the middle and length. Pure, focused, and reserved, with understated intensity and sinewy composition, this is a very fine Las-Cases which will cellar well.
<b>Serve with</b>	Leoville Las Cases is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Production</b>	10,000 cases made.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2028-2042



**Scores/Awards** **98 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022  
**98 points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022  
**97-99+ points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020  
**98 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - March 2022  
**98 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022  
**98-99 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020  
**97-99 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020  
**19 points** - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - June 2020  
**98 points** - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020  
**98 points** - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022  
**98 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022  
**97-99 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020  
**Review Only** - Farr Vintners - May 2020  
**97 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022  
**94-96 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020  
**97+ points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022  
**97-99+ points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020  
**97 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020  
**99 points** - Yves Beck (score only) - December 2021  
**19.5 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022  
**99 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2020

**Reviews** *“Remarkably sleek and pure, considering the generally burly and obvious tannic profile of the vintage. Delivers a pure and unadulterated beam of cassis and plum reduction flavors inlaid seamlessly with a glistening iron girder that seems to have no end point through the finish, where violet, anise, and black tea notes shimmer. Reserved overall, with a beautiful austerity, this is an example of how great terroir always shines through—even in extreme years. Best from 2030 through 2050.”*  
 - JM, Wine Spectator

*“The 2019 Léoville Las Cases is a brilliant young wine that will delight Bordeaux purists. Unwinding in the glass with scents of cassis, dark berries, cigar wrapper and pencil shavings, it’s full-bodied, layered and tightly wound, with a deep core of fruit, lively acids, and an abundance of rich, powdery tannins. Concentrated and serious, much like its immediate neighbor Château Latour, it is likely to emerge as one of the vintage’s longest lived—and greatest—wines. Drink Date 2035 – 2065.”*  
 - WK, Wine Advocate

*“The 2019 Léoville Las Cases is a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc and 11% Merlot. Harvest began early for the Merlot, on the 18th of September, and the Cabernets were picked in October, finishing on the 8th of October. The IPT number (measurement of tannins) is 80—the same as 2018. The alcohol came at 14.02% (lower than 2018), but it does seem a little lower than this percentage, probably because the pH is a little lower this year, at 3.67. It is aging in French oak barriques, 90% new. The color is opaque purple-black, with a nose that unfurls slowly in the glass, beginning with vibrant, expressive black fruit notes of freshly crushed blackcurrants, ripe blackberries, and fresh black cherries, followed by a beguiling array of floral and earth nuances—candied violets, lavender, fragrant soil, underbrush, crushed rocks and black truffles. The medium to full-bodied wine dances ever so gracefully on the palate, demurely revealing tightly wound layers of bright, crunchy black fruits and tantalizing floral and mineral sparks, supported by a rock-solid structure of firm, finely grained tannins, and fantastic tension, finishing with epic persistence. Although the style is completely different, the barrel sample is behaving a lot like the Haut-Brion sample was when I tasted it, in that it appears to be holding just that little bit extra back right now. I have to call it as I see it today, but I wouldn’t be surprised if when I come back to taste this from bottle, it shows me all that and a lot more.”*  
 - LPB, Wine Advocate

*“Composed of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, and 10% Cabernet Franc, the 2019 Leoville Las Cases is deep garnet-purple colored. It needs a lot of swirling to unlock expressive notes of crushed blackcurrants, warm plums, and black cherry compote, with nuances of roses, cinnamon toast, tapenade, and cedar chest, plus a hint of iron ore. Full-bodied, firm, and grainy, it is built like a brick house, so muscular and finely layered with wonderful energy and a very long, minerally finish.”*  
 - LPB, Wine Independent

**Reviews** *“Currants and blackberries with crushed stones, bark and some conifer and pinecone. Perfumed. Discreet. Medium-to full-bodied with an integrated tannin structure that’s full of fine tannins that are weightless and seamless, building on the palate and coming out at the end. Needs five or six years to open. Texture of heavy silk. 79% cabernet sauvignon, 11% merlot and 10% cabernet franc. Try after 2027.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“So structured for the vintage, but there’s freshness and vibrancy from the acidity. Full-bodied, extremely creamy, and polished. Plush silk. Extremely long, linear, and compact.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“This is an immense wine. Made from 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, it shows great structure, richness, and aging potential. The tannins are ripe, showing the gentlest of extraction and are what is going to drive this wine for many years.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc. Barrel sample. Deep purple-black to the rim. Dark and brooding with immense depth. Blackcurrant and graphite nuance. Beautiful lift on the palate, so much energy and power. Ingrained minerally freshness. Huge tannic base but the texture smooth and remarkably refined. Zest and force but absolute precision. Lingering and intense, stays on the palate forever. One of the greats from this estate. (JL) 14%. Drink 2032 – 2050.”*  
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

*“I love it when a wine steals up on you, and you very definitely get that here, taking its time on the first attack then rapidly expanding outwards and upwards. Undoubtedly it will knit down as Las Cases can't help itself but do, but there is a creamy almost caramel side hiding among the tannins here. Beautiful power and layers of charcoal, slate, crushed stones, cassis, bilberry and tobacco - all displayed with elegance and tension. A long harvest of over three weeks from September 18 to October 8, 6.5% press wine used, a little more than in 2018 (where just over 2% was used). 3.67pH, 90% new oak. Drinking Window 2029 – 2045.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*“This is just a great Las Cases where the structure expands upwards and outwards, making your tastebuds sit up and pay attention. The scraping minerality almost feels like you are on limestone instead of gravel soils, until the tannins kick in and you hit a wall of slate, spice, liquorice, rosebud, violet. Dark autumnal fruits of blackcurrant and bilberry are set against smoke and flint, giving no ground, demanding you slow down and take your time. It opens up, but you need to work for it. Exudes authority, a wine that delivers the essence of the property. Harvest September 18 to October 8. 3.67pH, 90% new oak.”*  
- JA, Inside Bordeaux

*“The new version of classic modern is on display here. While the 2019 lacks the power of the 2018, instead you find one of the few great vintages of Leoville Las Cases that you can enjoy relatively early, which is early for LLC. The wine shows good color with a nose of currants, blackberry, spearmint, tobacco leaf, cigar box, flowers, cedar chest, and espresso. Here you find intensity, ripe, regal, creamy tannins, complexity, and refined textures with length and purity. Give this at least 12 years before popping a cork. The wine is a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, and 10% Cabernet Franc. Drink from 2028-2060.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“Dark, almost opaque garnet in color, the wine loads you up with smoke, spearmint, cigar wrapper, cedar, flowers, deep red pit fruits and blackberries. Perfectly combining intense power, concentration, layers of ripe black fruits and a refined character that create a seamless tasting experience. Give this at least 12-15 years before popping a cork. The wine is a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, reaching 14.02% alcohol with a 3.67 pH. The harvest took place from September 18 - October 9.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

**Reviews**

*“The 2019 is 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc and 11% Merlot. The harvest was started earlier here than at most neighbours, with grapes picked by row rather than parcel to optimise ripeness and freshness. The resulting yield is 41hl/ha, close to average. We were unable to taste the 2019 before release.”*

*- Farr Vintners*

*“The 2019 Léoville–Las Cases, bottled July 2021, retains the energetic, vivacious bouquet that I noticed last year from the barrel sample, offering intense blackberry, bilberry and still those faint shucked oyster shell scents in the background. The palate is medium-bodied with wonderful detail and precision, a mixture of black and blue fruit and enthralling clarity and length. Perhaps there is a little more creaminess in terms of texture toward the finish, a bit of "baby fat" that will be subsumed with time, so give this 8–10 years in bottle if you want to taste it in full flight. [Returning after 15 or 20 minutes, I discerned more pepperiness on the finish, and perhaps also less creaminess and more structure.] 14.02% alcohol. 2028 – 2070.”*

*- NM, Vinous*

*“The 2019 Léoville Las-Cases is a gorgeous, sophisticated wine. Deep and beautifully layered, the 2019 has remarkable depth and simply impeccable balance. Here, too, the integration of fruit, tannin and acidity is simply remarkable, especially for such a young wine. In so many vintages, Las Cases can be a brute, but the 2019 is incredibly polished. If anything, it is uncharacteristically shy at this stage. The 2019 saw 3-4 weeks on the skins, with malolactic fermentation in tank. Press wine is 6.5%, which is on the lower end for Las Cases. The wine was barreled down in December, fully blended”*

*- AG, Vinous*

*“More backward, deep, and layered, the Grand Vin 2019 Château Léoville Las Cases is 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc that saw 90% new French oak. Just awesome aromatics of pure crème de cassis, graphite, tobacco leaf, burning embers, and gravelly earth all soar from the glass. This is followed by a quintessential Léoville Las Cases that's medium to full-bodied, pure, concentrated, and regal on the palate, with beautiful tannins. The purity of fruit is spot on, it's flawlessly balanced, and it's going to age for decades. While it offers pleasure today, I'd wager it will take 10-15 years to hit maturity and will be a 50+ year wine.”*

*- Jeb Dunnuck*

*“The 2019 Château Léoville Las Cases is one seriously majestic beauty that shows the elegant, pure, balanced style of this vintage to a T. (...). Notes of crème de cassis, smoked black cherries, graphite, tobacco, and damp earth all emerge from the glass, and it hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a fresh, chiseled texture, layers of ripe tannins, and a solid spine of acidity. The 2019 will be one for the ages and will need at least a decade of bottle age but will drink well for 50-60 years or more.”*

*- Jeb Dunnuck*

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