
Sarget de Gruaud Larose 2009

CSPC# 721260

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	<i>Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cab. Franc, Petit Verdot</i>
Appellation	Saint-Julien
General Info	Sarget de Gruaud Larose is the second label of the esteemed Gruaud Larose, and certainly one of the best buys in the region. Classified a second growth in 1855, Gruaud Larose is a house favorite for its rich and classic style and capacity for aging.
Vineyards	The large vineyard has 66 different parcels planted to 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 7.5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot and 1.5% Malbec with old vines averaging 40 years. The Sarget is made from younger vines and spends less time in oak than the first label.
Harvest	The fruit, harvested by hand, is managed by a winemaking team overseen by Jacques Merlaut's son, Jean.
Vinification/ Maturation	The fruit is sorted then undergoes a cold soak prior to temperature controlled fermentation in a mixture of wooden and concrete vats, with pumping over of the fermenting must twice a day. Then up to a third of the vintage undergoes malolactic in oak barrels, before ageing the entire wine in <i>Alliers</i> and <i>Nevers</i> oak (up to 50% new) for eighteen months, and there is a light fining and filtration before bottling.
Tasting Notes	Gorgeous aroma of blackcurrant, cassis and black cherry on the nose, this will show very well young and is a very fair snapshot of the Grand Vin. Well rounded, smooth, smoky black fruit easy drinking and with nice length, this looks to be a very sensibly priced offering from an extremely well-respected Chateau.
Production	Approx. 16,000 made annually
Cellaring	10-15 years
Scores/Awards	89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012 16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2010 88-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2010
Reviews	<i>"This has a nice beefy edge, offering roasted fig, plum and warm tobacco leaf notes, with bittersweet cocoa inlaid on the slightly gutsy finish. On the rustic side, but solid and winey. This second wine is also released under the Larose de Gruaud label. Best from 2013 through 2020."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator

"Dark crimson. Interesting leathery, almost Syrah-like notes. Very neat and satisfying. Savoury. Just a little austere on the finish. Drying tannins on the end. Very sweet."
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"With intense red and black fruit on the nose, the 2009 Sarget de Gruaud Larose is very enticing indeed with a lovely supple, smooth texture, deliciously juicy fruit on the palate and very fresh acidity. Beautifully ripe and very round, this displays an almost exotic spice character on the long, rewarding finish"
- B&R, bbr.com

"Tasted at the chateau. A blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Franc and 7% Petit Verdot. This is just a little lean on the nose considering the vintage. Touches of iodine and black olive tapenade inflecting the black fruits with a hint of boysenberry developing with time in the glass. Gaining some weight and intensity with each swirl. The palate is medium-bodied, well balanced with firm, ripe tannins, good weight towards the Cabernet dominated finish that has an insistent grip, touches of spice towards the finish. This is a very promising Sarget. Tasted March 2010"
- NM, Wine Journal

