

Château de Chantegrive 2018

CSPC# 756708

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation

Graves

Classification

Grand vin de Bordeaux

Website

<http://www.chantegrive.com/homepage>

General Info

In 1966 Henri and Françoise Leveque acquired a few plots of vines in the village of Podensac. After 40 years of patiently adding more prime plots, Château de Chantegrive is today one of the largest and most prestigious estates in the Graves appellation with 80 hectares of vines. It is a member of the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux. A new generation has now arrived, which, with its energy and committed involvement within the winegrowing world, has injected renewed impetus into the estate. The chateau is a family owned and is run by Hélène Lévêque.

Winemaker

Christian Elia

Vintage

Bordeaux 2018 will be remembered as an exceptional year, with no shortage of outstanding wines from this extraordinary vintage. The weather too has been exceptional, with a glorious summer extending long into the September and early-October harvest, but the vintage had begun with a bizarrely challenging first half of the growing season. It has ended up, not for the first time, as a year of mixed fortunes.

With the warm summer, it was little wonder that the harvest kicked off early for the whites, with several blocks of Sauvignon Blanc being picked as early as 21 August. Graves and the Entre-Deux-Mers starting their harvest, in early September.

Vineyards

Superb family property spread over 96 hectares, 44 of which are dedicated to the production of red wines, the Château de Chantegrive is one of the most beautiful references in Graves, south of Bordeaux. The magnificent vineyard is planted on clay-limestone soils, gravel, rolled pebbles and fine sands. Driven by the ambition and commitment of its creators, Château de Chantegrive combines elegance, freshness, structure of matter and precision. Sustainable agriculture raised and herbed vines. Soil work under the rows and de-budding, then thinning.

Harvest

Reasoned cultivation, controlled productivity, disbudding, thinning out of the leaves. Both manual and mechanical harvest sorting with a Mistral® table.

Vinification/

Maturation

Cold pre-fermentation for 3 to 4 weeks, then alcoholic fermentation in small thermo-regulated vats. French oak barrels, 50% of new wood, for 12 months.

Tasting Notes

Born and raised on our magnificent soil of gravel and pebbles, our great reds perfectly express our terroir. They are full bodied and powerful when young, smooth and ample when the years have passed. The limestone and clay subsoil provides good balance. This wine combines freshness and refinement thanks to our two key grape varieties, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. The bouquet is dominated by red fruit aromas, which is also the case on the palate where spices and, for vintages in the hotter years, notes of blackberry and grilled almonds are also present.

Made from a blend of Merlot (60%) and Cabernet Sauvignon (40%), Château de Chantegrive 2018 reflects all the typicity of the Graves terroir. In a very great vintage for the Bordeaux region, the Graves rouge Château de Chantegrive 2018 seduces with its aromatic complexity combining notes of ripe fruit with woody and toasted notes while the palate envelops the palate with its ample and silky substance. A sure bet from Graves.

Production

12,500 cases made

Serve with

Chateau Chantegrive is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. The red wine of Chateau Chantegrive is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes.

Cellaring

Drink 2021-2026



Scores/Awards **89 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2021
88-90 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - April 2019
90 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2021
92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2021
16.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - October 2020
15.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - March 2019
89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2021
87-89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2019
85 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - March 2019
88-91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2019
90 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2019
90 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - April 2019

Reviews *"Bright and fresh, with damson plum and red currant coulis notes laced with sanguine and herb hints. Not big, but the finish is sneakily long. Drink now through 2026. 12,500 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2018 Chantegrive is scented of Morello cherries, warm plums and Black Forest cake with hints of baking spices and woodsmoke. Medium to full-bodied, soft and juicy in the mouth, it gives a good amount of red and black fruit flavors with a spicy finish."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"Aromas of ripe blackcurrants. Spice cherries, licorice, orange zest and dried leaves. It's medium bodied with firm tannins. Fresh, medium finish."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This wine is young but has great potential. The tannins shine, balanced with powerful black fruits and a solid, dense texture. This wine will age well and will be at its best from 2023."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon. Deep cherry red. Ripe and dark-fruited but with classic bordeaux savoury rather than sweet aroma, though there is some sweet oak spice. A marked dusty aroma like crushed rocks, giving a sense of purity in ripeness. Full and sweeter in the mouth than on the nose, velvety, deep tannins. Moderate acidity but fresh and long. A big wine but the tannins seem so approachable. (JH)"
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon; 50% new oak. Barrel sample. Inky crimson. Ripe blackcurrant but concentrated so that it's not very aromatic. Hint of Ribena. On the palate, very thick tannins but very smooth, dense and rich in fruit but a bit of a block. (JH)"
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"Forward, medium bodied, elegant, fresh, sweet, soft and smoky styled wine. The fruit has a really nice touch this year, good ripeness, vibrancy and a bit of smoke in the red berry finish."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Medium bodied, elegant and light on its feet, the wine is soft, elegant and easy to understand, as the ripe, red fruits with their earthy, smoky accents come with an early drinking charm."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2018 Chantegrive offers lovely depth and textural resonance, with pretty floral and savoury notes that lend a brilliant upper register. The 2018 finishes with lovely precision. Touches of mocha and gravel add the closing shades of nuance. Tasted two times."
- AG, Vinous
