

Château Belle-Vue 2014

CSPC# 744966

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 22% Petit Verdot
Appellation Haut-Medoc
Classification Cru Bourgeois
Website <http://www.chateau-belle-vue.fr/>

General Info Chateau Belle Vue is located in Haut Medoc in the commune of Macau. Petit Verdot is particularly important on this gravelly terroir making up 20% with Cabernet Sauvignon around 55% and Merlot around 25% also playing a part. Belle-Vue is established in 1996 when the previous owner Rémy Fouin set apart his best (Gironville) vineyards with the aim of producing a wine of... say Margaux quality: Belle-Vue directly borders the 3rd classed growth Château Giscours.

Acquired in 2004 by Vincent Mulliez, Castle BELLE-VUE comes from a land whose history is intertwined with that of Bordeaux wine. Mulliez joked that it would be a good sign when one-day people would describe Giscours "as the neighbour of the famous Château Belle-Vue." But until today this is the other way around, I'm afraid. Since the death of Vincent Mulliez in May 2010 (at 44 years of age), his wife Isabelle took over the management of the Civil Society of Gironville to pursue with determination the work begun by her husband. This rigorous and enterprising man had succeeded in a few years to impose its three properties, Belle-Vue, Gironville and BOLAIRE among the best recognition in the Médoc.

Vintage Summer 2014 was challenging but led to an incredibly long Indian summer. Each grape-variety reached an optimum ripeness and were skillfully treated: these are the conditions to produce a serious wine.

Vineyards The vineyard is maintained with care and protection reasoned yields are restricted to obtain the best possible fruit maturity. Average vine age is 32 years, and the 15.58-hectare estate comprises 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Merlot, 21% Petit Verdot.

Maturation Wines receive 16 months in barrel to mature, with 25% of barrels being new and 60% having been used for one previous vintage.

Serve with Cheese & sliced deli meats; roast pork, pork ribs, steak.

Production 10,000 cases made

Cellaring Drink 2017-2022

Scores/Awards **#78 Wine Enthusiast Top 100 of 2017**

89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2017

89-92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2015

88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate Interim - March 31, 2017

87 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #227 - October 2016

88-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 2015

91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - February 2017

92 points / Editor's Choice - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2017

16 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - October 2016

16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2015

88 points - Steven Spurrier, Decanter.com - June 2015

89-91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2015

88-90 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - March 2015

87 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - March 2015

88-92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2015

16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)

15 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only)

15.5 points - Gault & Millau (score only)



Reviews

"This has a good core of warmed cherry and plum compote notes gently infused with tobacco and backed by a light loam echo on the finish. The structure is fine-grained and well-buried, but present, nonetheless. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2022. 10,000 cases made."

- JM, Wine Spectator

"This has a full feel, with loam and charcoal notes underneath the layers of blackberry and black cherry fruit. Features a smoky essence through the finish, revealing a pleasant tug of earth. Score range: 89-92"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2014 Belle Vue, from the sub-appellation of Macau, has a very pure cedar and leather-tinged bouquet with well-integrated new oak and a floral component, violets, from the high percentage of Petit Verdot. The palate is medium bodied with supple tannin, fine acidity, good weight with a plush but crisp blackberry and strawberry coulis finish. This is actually better than the bottle I tasted last year."

- NM, Wine Advocate

"The 2014 Belle Vue has an attractive and clean bouquet with briary, cedar and tobacco scents, though I would have liked a little more vigor. The palate is medium bodied with light tannin, a crisp line of acidity and perky red berry fruit. It just needs more body and weight towards the finish that drifts to its conclusion. Tasted September 2016."

- NM, Wine Advocate

"The Château Belle-Vue 2014 is a blend of 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 22% Petit Verdot cropped at 53 hectoliters per hectare and raised in 25% new wood. The nose is a little austere at first, but it begins to open up with style. The palate is medium-bodied with ripe blackberry and undergrowth notes, fine tannin with a light white-pepper tone on the finish. This is a fine Haut-Médoc to drink over the next decade."

- NM, Wine Advocate

"Ripe mulberries and mint on the nose. Quite bold and generous — but not heavy — and the tannins are discrete on the front palate, coming through quite strongly on the impressive finish."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Situated in the southern Médoc village of Macau, on the edge of the deep Margaux gravels, this estate has produced an impressive and structured wine. It is concentrated with its black currants and dark tannins. It is likely to develop slowly over several years. Drink from 2021."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Deep crimson with purple rim. Attractive dusty quality to the dark fruit. Dark and savoury on the palate, with a touch of charred potato skins. Not charming at the moment but elegant and with a promising future. Dry finesse and attractive restraint. (JH)"

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"Dark crimson. Edge of cheesiness on a refreshing fruity whole. Lots of life even if not enormous concentration. "

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Fine floral and supple fruit from vineyards near La Lagune; always good."

- SS, Decanter.com

"Soft tannins and a spicy, floral and ripe nose are coupled with fresh, smoky black cherries in the finish. This should be quite tasty on release. The wine was made from a blend of 47% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 22% Petit Verdot and reached 13.5% alcohol."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Deeply coloured; saturated look; full aromatics; fresh blackcurrants; some earth; Cabernet freshness; classical and has depth; full and creamy on the palate; nice fruit and real juice here; plenty of freshness too; one of the very best cru bourgeois in 2014. Drink 2019-2028. Tasted 2 April, 15 Cru Bourgeois tasting at d'Arsac. 88-90+"

- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

Reviews *“Very good intensity and depth in this Haut-Medoc with blackberry, cassis and plum. Tannins are firm and ripe with a nice freshness behind the wine. A well-crafted red.”*
- JCL, asianpalate.com
