

Château Mauvesin Barton 2020

CSPC# 763551

750mlx12

12.65% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Moulis en Médoc

Website

<http://www.mauvesin-barton.com/>

General Info

While the creation of Chateau Mauvesin Barton is a recent event, the chateau and vineyard date back several hundred years. In fact, Chateau Mauvesin Barton was created in 1457. The chateau on the property, which is now used as the residence for Lilian Barton and her family was built in 1853. For most of its life, the property produced wine that was sold as Chateau Mauvesin. But when the estate was purchased in 2011 from the Baritault de Carpia family by the Barton family. The Baritault family is related to the Capbern Gasqueton family that recently sold Chateau Calon Segur in the St. Estèphe appellation. The Barton family own the famous St. Julien estates; Chateau Leoville Barton and Chateau Langoa Barton. They altered the name of the chateau and winery to reflect the change in ownership to Chateau Mauvesin Barton. Interestingly, Lilian Barton was not going to add her family name to the historic chateau, but when she discovered that Chateau Mauvesin was already a trademarked name in China, she changed the name of the estate to Chateau Mauvesin Barton.

Prior to being sold to the Barton family, the property was in the hands of the Baritault de Carpia family for several hundred years. Once the purchase was finalized, the new owners, Lilian Barton and her husband Michel Sartorius began a serious restoration and renovation of the entire estate, including the chateau, wine making facilities, cellars, and vineyard. In the cellars of Chateau Mauvesin Barton, for the first time, the wines are now vinified in temperature-controlled, stainless-steel tanks.

Winemaker

Bruno Petit

Vintage

2020 - a year of more than the usual challenges. In a few words, 2020 is a high-quality vintage of less than normal quantity. The mild and wet spring led to early flowering which in turn turned into a hot summer including over fifty days of drought, and a heat spike during the summer. The diminished yields of the year resulted from mildew pressure in the spring and a few hail-producing thunderstorms, and in fact is one of the lowest yield vintages in the last decade. The heat throughout but particularly at the end of the summer led to concentrated fruit. And of course, COVID 19 led to most critics' inability to travel to the various Chateau or en premiere events to taste, most were able to taste from home. Not an ideal circumstance but given the year's weather and the expertise of these top producers, critics are overall excited and pleased with the prospects of the 2020 vintage.

Vineyards

The vineyard is situated in the "Moulis-en-Médoc" appellation, to the north of Bordeaux, on the left bank of the Gironde estuary. Part of the soil is clay-gravel, perfectly adapted for the development of Cabernet-Franc and Merlot. Another part is made up of fine gravel and gritty sand, allowing the Cabernet Sauvignon to reach full ripeness.

As for all the Barton family activities, great importance is attached to environmental protection and the quality of the wines produced. The 46 hectares of vines comprise 54% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 11% Cabernet Franc. The vines are on average close to 35 years of age.

Harvest

From 21st September to 2nd October

Vinification/ Maturation

The younger vines are picked by hand. After careful selection, the grapes are placed in temperature-controlled stainless-steel vats for the fermentation and maceration phase. The ageing process lasts 12 to 15 months, in French oak barrels of which one third are new. The casks rest on a gravel bed to regulate humidity.

Tasting Notes

Bright ruby color. Nose revealing notes of wild strawberries, toasted bread with a hint of delicate vanilla. The wine is harmonious and well balanced. The tannins are already well integrated, the wine is supple and leaves a nice finish in the mouth.



Serve with	Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
Production	5,600 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2023-2032.
Scores/Awards	<p>88 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2023</p> <p>90-92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only) - May 2022</p> <p>92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - November 2022</p> <p>91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 2023</p> <p>91 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2023</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2021</p> <p>90 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2023</p> <p>86 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2021</p> <p>89-91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2021</p> <p>90 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2023</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2021</p> <p>86 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2021</p> <p>87-89 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2021</p> <p>92-93 points - Vert de Vin - May 2021</p> <p>89 points - Andreas Larsson, Tasted - May 2021</p> <p>89-90 points - Michael Schuster, The World of Fine Wine - May 2021</p> <p>16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Features friendly cherry and mulled plum notes, which mingle with a soft-edged structure and a lingering savory, cedary finish. Drink now through 2026. 5,600 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Aromas of black cherries and mulberries with hints of licorice and dried orange peel. Medium-bodied with silky texture and firm, slightly chewy tannins. Structured and compact with succulent fruit and a lingering finish with some savory notes to it."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Made with 59% Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine has a good structure and some solid tannins. It also has brilliant fruit, bright with black currant flavors and acidity that will age well. Drink from 2026."</i> - RV, Wine Enthusiast</p> <p><i>"So fragranced on the nose, floral and aromatic with touches of milk chocolate and red cherries. Crisp and punctual, forward, and quite open though lightly framed in terms of ripeness and texture, tannins are present but fine with a firm grip and this has a cool blueberry undertone. Finely structured, well defined, and delicate with fruit to the fore."</i> - GH, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"Melanie Barton has now been in charge at Mauvesin-Barton for 10 years, and there is a real feeling of the wine having found its voice - a gentle, fruit-forward Moulis with finesse if not a huge amount of power. Delicate with vibrancy, plenty of blackberry fruits with well-defined but soft tannins, they have really done a great job in the vintage, a value pick and I can't remember tasting a better example of this wine during en primeur. They suffered badly from frost in 2021. Drinking Window 2023 – 2032."</i> - JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>"Dried flowers, leafy herbs, tobacco, and red currants work together to form the nose. Medium-bodied, bright, fresh, supple, and aching to share its sweet red fruits, this is already delicious in your glass. Drink from 2023-2035."</i> - JL, thewinecellarinsider.com</p> <p><i>"The 2020 Mauvesin Barton is silky, gracious, and full of charm. Sweet floral aromatics and bright red berry fruit give this midweight, understated Moulis tons of immediacy and appeal. Such a pretty wine."</i> - AG, Vinous</p>

Reviews *“The 2020 Chateau Mauvesin Barton brings more density and depth, yet it still has a more mid-weight, forward, pretty, and elegant style. A blend of 59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc, it offers up lots of red and black fruits, some spicy, dried herbs, and violet nuances, soft tannins, and a clean, lengthy finish. This balanced, elegant Moulis will keep for 10-12 years or more. Best After 2023.”*
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Redcurrants, black raspberries, spice, and smoked tobacco all emerge from the 2020 Château Mauvesin Barton. Medium-bodied, with a supple, elegant texture, sweet tannins, and a great finish, it's one heck of an impressive Moulis that will keep for a good 10-12 years.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Dark ruby, purple reflections, discreet brightening on rim. Herbal savoury, tobacco-scented dark berry fruit, a touch of suede. Medium body, red berries, delicate cherry, vivid tannins, vegetal nuances on the finish, some tannin in the aftertaste.”
- PM, Falstaff Magazine

“On the nose, elegance, beautiful, it offers certain concentration, a nice texture, a good definition. It reveals the notes of wild mulberry, crushed black berries, and slight hint of raspberry associated with violet prune, violet, de zan, and also discreet touch of tobacco. On the palate, opulence, precise, it offers minerality, freshness a good definition, a certain richness continues and also fine minerality, a beautiful fruit with freshness. The wine expresses the notes of juicy mulberry, blackcurrant, and slight hint of fresh raspberry associated with touch of nice minerality, waft of tobacco, cardamom, roasted hazelnut. Good length.”
- Vert de Vin

“Classic rather tannic style but fine ripeness this year, attractive dark fruit, ripe black currant and plum notes with modest oak, good length, an age worthy style that should age and soften for a few years.”
- AL, Tasted.com

“(59% CS, 35% M, 6% CF; 12.65% ABV; 33% new). Deepish purple; dense, aromatic, faintly gravelly, a very nice nose; crisp medium weight, with the typical vital acidic edge of many Left Bank wines (partly also the Barton style of picking when “just-ripe” rather than “very ripe—overripe,” as they would say). Even and refreshing, an attractive tauter style, crisply red fruit to taste, a nice length of flavor at the level, and good length of finish, too. Classic, mouth-watering, lighter claret. 2024–30+. 88–90.”
- MS, The World of Fine Wine
