

# Château Potensac 2021

CSPC# 763553

750mlx12

13.10% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot
<b>Appellation</b>	Médoc
<b>Classification</b>	Cru Bourgeois
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/potensac-chateau_potensac_vins.html">http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/potensac-chateau_potensac_vins.html</a>
<b>Analysis</b>	Total Acidity: 3.54 gH <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> /l    pH: 3.54    IPT: 72
<b>Sustainability</b>	Sustainable agriculture is an essential point of the work of the vine.
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Potensac is owned by the same people as Leoville Las Cases, run by Jean-Hubert Delon. The estate is situated in the north of the Medoc, between the villages of Blaignan and Ordonnac.</p> <p>Quality at Potensac has been on an upward curve ever since Michel Delon (of Léoville-Las-Cases) fame took over the running of the property in the 1970s. He sadly passed away in 2000 and Potensac is now run by his dynamic son Jean-Hubert, with the assistance of maître de chai Pierre Rolland, brother of guru oenologist Michel Rolland.</p>
<b>Winemakers</b>	Pierre Rolland – cellar master
<b>Vintage</b>	Just as the climatic conditions made it particularly difficult to monitor the vines, the pace of growth was never constant or predictable. Ongoing efforts have enabled us to harvest each grape variety according to its characteristics, the gravelly soils being earlier than the clay-limestone ones. The Cabernets, which are predominant this year, are powerful and offer great aromatic complexity, while the Merlots bring freshness and lushness.
<b>Vineyards</b>	<p>The estate's Grand Vin's vineyards are located west of Ordonnac village. Its rows of vines grow on a double thalweg of gravelly clay. They produce a very fine wine with tight texture, great richness, and wonderful freshness. On the palate, the wine is pure and powerful, the tannins dense and spicy, and the finish of great depth with glorious aromas. Because of these qualities, Château Potensac is often considered to represent the "pure Medoc style". It should be noted that Potensac was the only "Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel" of its appellation.</p> <p>The vineyards cover 50 hectares, planted on rich alluvial gravel and red clay soils, with 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Franc vines. These vines have an average age of 35 years.</p>
<b>Harvest</b>	From 29th September to 14th October 2021
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	The grapes at Potensac are hand-harvested and then vinified in a combination of temperature-controlled, concrete, and stainless-steel tanks. The wine is matured in small oak barrels (20% new) for 14-16 months.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	The Grand Vin of Château Potensac remains structured and complex, well bred, precise, supple and of good length. Medium-deep crimson. Intense black olive, blackberry fruits. Chewy wine with plentiful blackberry, mulberry fruits, vigorous al dente/ brambly textures and underlying savoury oak/ roasted chestnut notes. Firm finish.
<b>Serve with</b>	Best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. The wine of Chateau Potensac is 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>	Approx. 15,000 cases made.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2025-2038
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>88 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - December 2023</p> <p><b>89 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - February 2024</p> <p><b>89-90 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p><b>86-88 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2022</p> <p><b>92-93 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>16+ points</b> - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - May 2022</p> <p><b>89 points</b> - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - May 2022</p>



**Scores/Awards** **89-91 points** - Jeff Leve, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com) - May 2022  
**90 points** - Tim Atkin, MW - [timatkin.com](http://timatkin.com) (score only) - April 2022  
**88-90 points** - Thomas Parker, Farr Vintners - April 2022  
**87-89 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2022  
**91 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2024  
**90-92 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - May 2022  
**88-90 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2022  
**88 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2022  
**90 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2022  
**91 points** - Vert de Vin - July 2022  
**91-92 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - May 2022

**Reviews** *"Polished and fresh, with brightness to the red and black cherry core carried by sweet tobacco and a subtle sanguine hint. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2030."*  
- JM, Wine Spectator

*"A strong effort, the 2021 Potensac offers up aromas of minty cassis, cigar wrapper and sweet soil tones, followed by a medium-bodied, supple, and lively palate. It's a pure, charming, well-made rendition of this dependable bottling."*  
- WK, Wine Advocate

*"A blend of 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and an unusually high 23% Cabernet France, the 2021 Potensac offers up attractive aromas of cassis, loamy soil, wilted rose petals and pipe tobacco. Medium-bodied, supple, and lively, with ripe, powdery tannins and a saline finish, it's a charming, perfumed rendition of this Médoc estate. Tasted three times."*  
- WK, Wine Advocate

*"The 2021 Potensac is a blend of 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, and 3% Petit Verdot, with a larger proportion of Cabernet Franc this year. Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it rolls out with up-front scents of cassis, fresh blackberries, and raspberry leaves, plus suggestions of lavender, bay leaves, and black olives. Light to medium-bodied, the palate is bright and breezy with a light chewiness to the tannins and a lively backbone, finishing with a red berry lift. pH 3.54. IPT 72."*  
- LPB, Wine Independent

*"Real clarity of fruit with currants, blueberries, and crushed stone. Some saltiness. Medium body and fine tannins. Perfumed and peppery, with peppercorn notes."*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot. Cask sample. Perfumed and floral, the record amount of old-vine (100 years) Cabernet Franc showing. Very fresh but ripe and honed with stony, mineral notes on the finish. Acidity present but not jarring and as always firm but fine tannins for ageing. (JL) 13.1%. Drink 2027 – 2038."*  
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

*"Classically-balanced Podensac, dense ruby in colour, this is not exuberant, full of cool blue fruits, a signature of the good wines of the vintage, careful extraction, gentle overall, this is good quality and can be approached early. Highest level of Cabernet Franc ever, 3.54ph, 37hl/h yield after mildew. Harvest through to October 13th. Tasted twice."*  
- JA, janeanson.com

*"Leafy spearmint and red fruits are the thrust of this bright, crisp, foursquare styled vintage. Quite classic in nature, this firm, chewy wine is perfect for lovers of classic styled Bordeaux. The wine was produced from blending 40% Merlot, 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Cabernet Franc and 13% Petit Verdot, 13.1% ABV. Drink from 2025-2038."*  
- JL, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com)

**Reviews** *“Mid ruby colour. Savoury and cool with camphor and hedgerow fruit on the nose. Blackcurrant leaf and mint mingle with tobacco and sandalwood on the palate, which is sandy and firm. Wood spice builds on the finish, which is lively with acidity and juicy red berries. Linear and a little strict for now. One for the classicists.”*

- TP, Farr Vintners

*“The 2021 Potensac was picked September 29 through October 13 and contains the highest-ever percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon (40%). Aged in 20% new oak, it has a light blackberry and raspberry nose with touches of tobacco. The palate is medium-bodied, though clearly lighter, and airier than recent vintages, and displays slight attenuation on the finish. Two bottles tasted, the second at the château showing slightly better. (13.10% alcohol).”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2021 Potensac is a racy, heady wine. There's a bit more Cabernet Sauvignon in this year's blend, and that comes through in the wine's personality. Medium in body, savory and super-expressive, Potensac is terrific in 2021. I especially admire its finesse. Lifted floral top notes brighten the finish.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2021 Potensac is beguiling. Perhaps it is the high amount of Cabernet Franc (23%) in the blend this year. The 2021 exudes refinement from the very first taste. Rose petal, spice, crushed red berry fruit and sweet pipe tobacco all open effortlessly. Readers will find a Haut-Médoc endowed with compelling aromatic presence and exceptional balance. The purity of the flavors is striking.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2021 Château Potensac might be outstanding and certainly has lots to love. A blend of 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Petit Verdot, it has solid cassis and almost raspberry-like fruit, notes of cedar, tobacco, and flowers, medium body, and silky, polished tannins. It's a classic Bordeaux to enjoy on release and over the following 10-12 years or so.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“Dark ruby with purple hues. Delicate red berry nuances, hints of cherries, redcurrants, and candied orange zest. Medium-bodied, mineral, taut, vivid tannins, a little dry on the finish, salty aftertaste.”*

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

*“The nose is fruity, with lovely, relatively fleshy fruit, good balance, and finesse. There are notes of juicy/pulpy boysenberry, fleshy cherry and more lightly of fleshy berries combined with fine hints of violet, liquorice, and discreet vanilla. The palate is fresh, mineral, balanced and reveals a mineral backbone, freshness, volume, a stretched side. On the palate, this wine expresses notes of fresh/chunky cherry, fleshy raspberry and more slightly blackcurrant combined with hints of tonka bean, toasted almond, fine hints of fresh flowers, minerality and a subtle hint of serenity (in the background). The tannins are precise and racy. A nice, smooth, gourmet persistence.”*

- Vert de Vin