

Château Ferrière 2020

CSPC# 742341

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc.
Appellation	Margaux
Classification	3rd Classified Growth in 1855
Website	http://www.ferriere.com/en/our-wines.aspx
Sustainability	<p>In 2015, Château Ferrière obtained Organic Agriculture certification.</p> <p>In 2018, the property is certified biodynamic (Demeter and Biodyvin)</p> <p>It took several years to implement this approach. We had to become familiar with it and integrate it into the daily life of the property. Today, it brings together the teams that are fully associated with it.</p> <p>This orientation is the result of an awareness of the heritage of an exceptional terroir that must be preserved and made sustainable through ecological viticulture.</p> <p>It is associated with the desire to go further in the balance between the vine and its natural environment and to give it the energy in order to be able to free itself from diseases.</p> <p>The development of the terroir by these farming methods that are more respectful of the environment, tends our wines towards more finesse, depth, and balance; thus, revealing its minerality and vibrant freshness, the signature of great terroir wines.</p>
General Info	<p>In the middle of the XVIII century, the property belonged to Gabriel Ferrière, illustrious member of the court of Louis XV. It remained in the FERRIERE family until 1914, when it was sold to Armand Feuillerat, the owner of Chateau Marquis de Terme, another Grand Cru Classé of Margaux. From 1952, the property was rented, and the operations were directed by Alexis Lichine. The wine was vinified at Chateau Lascombes. In 1988, the Villars family bought the vineyards and the château, but the long term rent only ended in 1992. The family then took over the operations of the vineyard and winemaking. With its 10 hectares of vineyards, Chateau Ferriere has the smallest property of the Grands Crus Classés in 1855. Today, Claire Villars is the supervisor of this revival. She works with the greatest finesse and succeeded to reveal in her wine the exceptional terroir of Chateau Ferriere.</p>
Winemaker	Eric Boissenot, Winemaking consultant
Vintage	<p>2020 was characterized by capricious weather that necessitated ceaseless vigilance in the vineyard. The very mild winter and the rather warm spring favored a very early budding and flowering (2 to 3 weeks in advance). Summer was exceptionally hot and dry, the water stress got intense, and the maturation of the grapes took place without constraints.</p> <p>The exceptional terroir of the Brane plateau combined forces with meteorological conditions that suited it perfectly to produce an extraordinary Château Brane-Cantenac. Exceptional and utterly concentrated, the 2020 vintage is the product of an outstanding terroir.</p>
Vineyards	10 hectares. 65% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot, 5% cabernet franc. Soil is deep fine gravel and sand on clay. The average vine age is 45 years. 10 000 plants / ha. 800 gr / plant
Harvest	Hand picking. A yield of 34hl/ha.
Winemaking	<p>Traditional, in concrete and wood vats, whose volumes are proportional to plot, temperature control.</p> <p>Fermentation on the skins 18 to 24 days. The 2020 Ferrière is aged 80% in barrel (40% new) and 20% in amphora and concrete eggs with minimal SO2.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>Beautiful silky texture, a certain depth with good structure. Vivid acidity, with abundant fruit concentration.</p> <p>Tannins are quite present, but well-polished and gives a chocolaty texture, slightly astringent at the finish.</p>
Serve with	Chateau Ferriere is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Ferriere is a perfect match with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta as well as cheese.
Production	6,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2030-2055



Scores/Awards **93+ points** - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2023
95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2023
95-96 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2021
95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 2023
94-96 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2021
16.5 points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - April 2021
93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2021
91 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2021
93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2023
94-96 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - April 2021
95 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2023
94-96 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2021
93 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2023
92-93 points - Yves Beck - June 2021
94-96 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2021
95-96 points - Terres de Vins (score only) - September 2021
96-97 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - July 2021
91-92 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2021
18 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021

Reviews *"A serious, structured vintage, the 2020 Ferrière unwinds in the glass with aromas of sweet cherries, berries and plums mingled with raw cocoa and violets. On the palate, it's medium to full-bodied, with excellent concentration and plenty of powdery tannin that asserts itself on the youthfully firm finish. This blend of 68% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot, derived from a very high proportion of old vines, is a real success, but it will require patience."*
- WK, Wine Advocate

"Complex aromas of crushed berries, walnuts, wet earth, and spice follow through to a full to medium body, chewy yet juicy tannins and a savory finish. This needs time to soften but I like the character and intensity. 68% cabernet, 27% merlot, 3% petit verdot and 2% cabernet franc. From biodynamically grown grapes with Demeter certification."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Full-bodied with layers of bark, black tea and intense blackberry and earth. Iodine, too. It's powerful, chewy, and focused. 68% cabernet, 27% merlot, 3% petite verdot and 2% cabernet franc. From biodynamically grown grapes. Demeter certification."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"This wine has a dense character, with rich fruits and blackberry flavors heightened by the tannins. Because of the heat of Margaux, the wine is rich."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"The wood touches the wine and sustains the tannins. Its structure and its freshness combine easily with the pure black currant fruits. It is elegant, with a hint of strength in the tannins at the end. Made from organic and biodynamic grapes. Barrel Sample: 94-96."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc. Cask sample. Deep violet-edged hue. Dark fruit with cassis notes and touch of vanilla oak. The palate is zesty and fresh with plenty of juice, although the oak at this stage leaves a slightly dry edge. Attractive grain of tannin. Lively, elegant and less hard-edged than in the past but the oak needs time to integrate."
- JL, JancisRobinson.com

"The most gorgeous violet-edged ruby colour, here there is a clear depth to the fruit and structure. Margaux typicity comes out in the florality and striking energy in the fruit. A yield of 34hl/ha. 3% Petit Verdot completes the blend. Jacques Lurton has been consulting over the past few years; working with the vineyard and cellar team to help them focus on small things that make a big difference like oxygen management, and although he is no longer consulting the work has clearly paid off. Barrel Sample: 93."

Reviews

"The 2020 Ferrière is aged 80% in barrel (40% new) and 20% in amphora and concrete eggs with minimal SO2. The bouquet is quite intense and pure, with black cherries, raspberry, and light graphite scents. It becomes increasingly floral with aeration. The palate is medium bodied with a slightly creamy texture on the entry, impressive depth, and good grip with a dense, rather structured finish that lingers in the mouth. This is a long-term Margaux that deserves cellaring. Excellent."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2020 Ferrière is a powerhouse. Gravel, scorched earth, licorice, cloves, lavender, and inky dark fruit saturate the palate. A virile, potent wine, Ferrière shows the more virile side of Margaux off to great effect. Readers will find a wine of tremendous gravitas. Aging is 40% in new oak, 40% in one-year barrels and 20% in concrete tanks."

- NM, Vinous

"The 2020 Ferrière is tremendous. Dark fruit, lavender, gravel, incense, and dark spice are some of the many notes that develop. A wine of vertical, explosive energy, Ferrière is fabulous. The tannins are bruising today, so readers will have to be patient, but all the ingredients are there for 2020 to be superb. There is a feeling of unrestrained wildness in the Ferrière that is appealing."

- AG, Vinous

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"The last three are up. They announced the beautiful result of the 2020. Since 2010, Claire Villars Lurton has abandoned the help of chemistry in the cultivation of the vine. From 2012, the vintage goes biodynamic. In 2018, it added organic farming, winemaking, and aging with the aim of obtaining the very rigorous Demeter certification. By choosing to no longer use inputs, she also decided to modify the equipment of her cellar by providing it with cold production and the ability to organize all wine treatment operations under inert gas. This is a size change that protects the grapes, then the wine, from any contact with oxygen in all its transfers and movements. Not to mention the use of natural yeasts, low-temperature fermentations, the end of shedding and, better still, pumping over. In short, the idea is simple: to produce a red wine as one treats white wine. The result is spectacular. Dark, intense, purple colour. Very aromatic, fine, fruity, pure, ripe, subtle, and even deep nose. Delicate on the palate, very aromatic in the middle, juicy, tasty, the wine soars on the finish, long, complex, noble and above all unspittable. 2027-2050"

- JMQ

"Deep ruby, opaque core, purple reflections, faint brightening on rim. Delicate dark berry fruit, nuances of blackberry and black cherry, subtle cassis, and orange zest. Juicy, fine sweet texture, ripe cherry, elegant texture, integrated tannins, some light nougat on the finish, very good length, definite ageing potential."

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

"Purplish purple. What freshness in this bouquet marked by shades of red and black berries. Very elegant on the palate where the wine has almost silky and even suave tannins, while revealing power. They are in perfect harmony with the structure and offer potential. A harmonious, sapid and gourmet wine. 2026-2045."

- Yves Beck