

Château Labégorce 2017

CSPC# 813885

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation
Classification
Website
General Info

46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot
Margaux

Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel as of the 2003

http://www.labegorce.com/labegorce/public_html/index.php?lang=en

Labegorce, like many chateaus in Bordeaux, takes its name from one of the estates early owners, the Grosse family who held an interest in the land that dates back all the way to the 14th century. For centuries prior to the French Revolution, Chateau Labegorce was a massive estate. In fact, it was one of the bigger properties at the time in the Medoc. The lands of their Margaux estate was ordered to be divided. This division created three separate estates. This included, Chateau Labegorce, what later became Labegorce Zede and the tiny property L'Abbe Grosse de Grosse. However, the vineyards of Chateau Labegorce remained the largest of the three Margaux properties.

The chateau of Labegorce remaining on the property was constructed in 1821. Chateau Labegorce passed through a myriad of owners before it was most recently bought by the Perrodo family in 1989. Hubert Perrodo fell in love with Bordeaux and especially the Margaux region. While wine held a big interest for Perrodo, his real interesting in Bordeaux came after spending time in the appellation enjoying polo matches that were held at Chateau Giscours, also located in Margaux.

Perrodo set out with the goal to reunite all three pieces of the original Labegorce estate. He purchased L'Abbe Grosse de Grosse in 2002. However, Hubert Perrodo was only able to buy the chateau and some land. The vineyards were sold to Chateau Margaux. He completed the final piece of the puzzle when he bought Labegorce Zede in 2005. Sadly, Hubert Perrodo was killed in a skiing accident the following year.

Today, the Left Bank estate of Chateau Labegorce is managed by Perrodo's daughter, Nathalie Perrodo. Nathalie also manages the families other Medoc Bordeaux property, which is also located in the Margaux appellation, Chateau Marquis d'Alesme.

Winemaker
Vintage

Marjolaine de Coninck.

2017 Margaux is the first appellation in the Left Bank to show frost damage. Some estates lost a good percentage of their crop. Others lost between 10-20% of their harvest. 2017 Margaux is a winemaker's vintage. The terroir, picking dates and choices in the cellar set the tone for the vintage. There are several good wines. But the wines are not at the level of the stunning 2015 vintage, or 2016. In Margaux the vintage started off with an early budbreak. Because Margaux is such a large appellation with terroirs that vary in quality, several vineyards were struck by the frost. The overall style of the successful wines displays soft tannins, freshness and purity, over concentration and riper, darker fruits. Margaux, which is prized for its aromatic qualities' shines in this department, with strong floral and red fruit notes. Alcohol levels are also lower than you find in more recent years like 2016 and 2015. Many 2017 Margaux wines will offer pleasure in their youth, which is a good thing, because that will allow consumers to wait while their 2015 and 2016 wines evolve in the cellar.

Vineyards

The former 36-hectare Bordeaux wine vineyard of Labegorce is now 53 hectares and remains situated on the plateau just north of the town of Margaux, across the road from Chateau Lascombes. Delphine Kolasa is the director of communications for this Medoc property. Chateau Labegorce is planted to 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. The vines are planted to a density of 9,000 vines per hectare. On average the vines are 25 years of age. However, there are old vines at Chateau Labegorce. A sizable portion of the vineyard was planted during the 1950's and there is a section of vines that is over 100 years of age! The terroir of



Vineyards	Chateau Labegorce is composed of mostly sandy, gravel with some sand mixed with limestone in the soil.
Vinification/ Maturation	Vinification takes place in a combination of cement and stainless-steel vats. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrel. The wine is aged in 55% new French oak barrels for an average of 15 months. There is a second wine, Zede de Labegorce. The average annual production of Chateau Labegorce is 12,000 cases per year
Tasting Notes	With its vibrant expression, richesse and the complexity of its aromatic palette, the Chateau Labegorce 2017 reveals the purity of fruit, while the palate already displays a delicate tannic structure with fine grains. An excellent vintage for Chateau Labegorce.
Serve with	Chateau Labegorce is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Labegorce is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes. Chateau
Production	9,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2032
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2020</p> <p>90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2018</p> <p>90+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - March 2020</p> <p>89-91 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate #236 - April 2018</p> <p>92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2020</p> <p>92-93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2018</p> <p>91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2020</p> <p>89-91 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2018</p> <p>16+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2019</p> <p>15.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2018</p> <p>92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018</p> <p>92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2018</p> <p>93 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2020</p> <p>90-92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - May 2018</p> <p>93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - March 2020</p> <p>89-92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2018</p> <p>93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2020</p> <p>91-93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2018</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Ripe and stylish, featuring dark plum and blackberry compote flavors, infused with singed alder and tobacco notes. The fine-grained finish has nice flow. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2032. 9,000 cases made"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Fresh and lively, with red and black currant fruit gilded with lilac and sandalwood notes. A fresh mineral edge shows on the finish. Nicely rendered. 9,000 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Labégorce has quite an oaky nose to begin, giving way to scents of warm plums, pencil shavings and blackcurrant pastilles plus a waft of black olives. Medium to full-bodied, the palate delivers a lot of muscular fruit, framed by firm, chewy tannins and bold freshness, finishing a little hard. Rating: 90+"</i></p> <p>- LPB., Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Beginning with the 2009 vintage, Labégorce Zédé was folded into Labégorce, both of which are owned by the Perrodo family (as is the recently acquired Marquis d'Alesme). Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Labégorce gives pronounced black fruits, blackberries and black plums with suggestions of underbrush, lavender and bay leaves. The palate is medium-bodied, ripe, plump, juicy and expressive with plush tannins and good length. The current blend is 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot."</i></p> <p>- LPB., Wine Advocate</p>

- Reviews** *"This has a swathe of very attractive plums and ripe red berries on offer. The palate has a very fresh array of fine tannins. Smooth and easy with a rich, deep-set drive to the finish. Drink or hold."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "A juicy and rich red with lots of fruit and wet-earth character. Medium to full body, ripe tannins and a fresh finish."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "This is a wood-laden, spicy wine. It seems as though the wood has taken precedence over the fruit, giving the tannins prominence. While it will soften, the wine's dryness will stay. Drink from 2024."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "89–91. Barrel Sample. High amounts of wood mark this wine from the start, giving a more toasty impression than fruity. It is austere, only hinting at the fruit that should develop. Hold until 2024."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Dark crimson. Rather racy and juicy on the nose. A bit fatter and chunkier than the average Margaux but a very good effort for the vintage. Some sweetness and polish even if it's not the most classic Margaux."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Deep cherry red with black core. Sweet-smelling cassis with an attractive dusty graphite overlay. Soft chalky tannins and not a huge amount of fruit on the palate but the tannins are light enough to keep the balance, though the finish is quite dry. (JH)"*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- "An excellent Labégorce, full of rich black fruits, textured and layered. A great success in the vintage, with a mouthwatering delivery that holds itself with confidence. It's not hugely intense, as is often the case this year, but makes up for it with a poised delivery and firm, juicy tannins. (JA)"*
- JA, Decanter.com
- "Floral, black raspberry, espresso and earthy notes initiate a fresh, round, forward wine. This is soft, medium bodied with elegant textures and a sweet, ripe, fruity finish. Made from a blend of 46% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet Franc and 6% Petit Verdot, the wine reached 13% alcohol. Thirty percent of the harvest was hit with frost."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "The 2017 Labégorce is aged for 14 months in 45% new oak. This has an attractive bouquet with brambly red berry fruit, cedar and subtle dark chocolates scents. It is clean and focused. The palate is medium bodied with grainy tannins, not the most powerful Margaux in this vintage, a little dusty on the finish but still, quite a stylish Labégorce that deserves some bottle age. (NM)"*
- NM, Vinous
- "The 2017 Labégorce was picked 15 September to 4 October and matured in 45% new oak. It has a perfumed bouquet with rose petal and violet aromas infusing the dark cherry and raspberry pastille notes. The palate is medium bodied with supple tannin and a fine line of acidity. There is some vanillary oak to be subsumed during the élevage, wood tannins just lining the mouth on the aftertaste. But this is a finely made Margaux that should age well over the next 15 to 20 years."*
- NM, Vinous
- "The 2017 Labégorce is powerful yet nuanced, and wonderfully complete. Cedar, tobacco, mint, dried herbs and licorice grace this wine of tremendous complexity. While it is towering in its size, richness and intensity, the 2017 is also surprisingly elegant. Creamy, ample and flavorful, this is a very good wine with rather pretty floral notes that grace the exquisite finish. (AG)"*
- AG, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2017 Labégorce is terrific. Rich, dense and powerful, the 2017 packs a real punch, and yet all the elements are nicely balanced. Bold red stone fruit, smoke, leather, tobacco and dried flowers punctuate this nicely balanced, deeply flavored Margaux.”*

- AG, Vinous

“Under the helm of Marjolaine de Coninck, who arrived from Fonplegade in 2009, this estate has been firing on all cylinders, and they've made a beautiful 2017 Chateau Labegorce. Based on 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot that spent 14 months in 45% new oak, its deep purple/plum color is followed by a complex, medium to full-bodied, seamless Margaux that has complexity as well as depth and richness. With lots of cassis fruit and notes of sandalwood and spice, they've done a fabulous job with the tannins, and it has a great mid-palate and outstanding purity. You'd be excused for drinking bottles today, yet it should benefit from short-term cellaring and evolve for 15 years. This estate covers 65 hectares (there are 53 hectares under vine) located just north of the town of Margaux, on the plateau just across the road from Lascombes. If you haven't tried these wines in a while, now is an excellent time to give them another look.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“The 2017 Château Labégorce checks in as 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot (which is slightly more than normal), 8% Cabernet Franc and the rest Petit Verdot, aging in 45% new French oak. Its vibrant purple color is followed by a beautiful bouquet of crème de cassis, crushed flowers, classy oak, and graphite. With medium to full-bodied richness, an awesome texture, and ripe tannin, it's up with the top wines from the appellation. Tasted twice. This is an estate readers need to have on their radar. Barrel Sample: 91-93”

- Jeb Dunnuck
