

Château Lascombes 2009

CSPC# 749576

750mlx12

15.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Negociant
Appellation
General Info

48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot
Ginestet
Margaux

Chateau Lascombes was classified second growth of Margaux in the 1855 classification. It bears its name of its first owner, Chevalier Antoine de Lascombes, born in 1625. The existing chateau was built in 1867 after its acquisition by barrister Chaix d'Est Ange. Alexis Lichine took over the property in 1952. He completely restructured Château Lascombes and renovated the vineyard and cellars. In 1971, he sold everything to the English brewer Bass-Charrington. In April 2001, Chateau Lascombes was bought by Colony Capital who undertook important restructuring works, reduced significantly the yields and introduced vats made of French oak.

Vineyards
Harvest

Comprised of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 50% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot
Grapes are entirely hand picked in ten-kilo crates. Yield 43 hl/ha.
83% of the yield went into the Grand Vin.

Maturation

4 months ageing on the lees. 90% new barrels

Tasting Notes

A deep, brilliant purple colour, still showing some violet-purple glints. Fresh, delicate and fruity on the nose. Subtle aromas of spices and black fruits, mingling with some notes of roasted coffee beans. The entry to the palate is clean while staying soft and velvety. The midpalate is dense, powerful and always elegant with well-ripened black fruits. The oak comes through but with finesse and integrates subtly with the wine. The tannins are silky. The finish is long. Lovely complexity. The 2009 vintage is a monster dressed in lace. Its freshness ensures long ageing potential.

Production

25,000 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2012-2027

Scores/Awards

89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012
92-95 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010
94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012
94-96+ points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010
89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012
91-93+ points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010
92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 1, 2012
92-94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 8, 2010
92 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - July 2012
90-93 points - Ian D'Agata, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2010
16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010
17.5 points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - October 2011
17-18+ points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - March 2010
17 points/4 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010
89 points/16 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010

Reviews

"Alluring, with coffee and mocha notes leading the way for fleshy plum, blackberry sauce and spice hints. The toasty finish hangs on nicely. A bit dressed up but will certainly have some fans. Drink now through 2019. 25,000 cases made."

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Fascinating aromas of crushed berries and fresh herbs follow through to a full body, with velvety, polished tannins and a long, long finish. Wonderful wine. More reserved than the 2005, but potentially better. Score range: 92-95"

- JS, Wine Spectator



Reviews

"The 2009, which is inky blue/purple to the rim, is a final blend of 48% Cabernet Sauvignon, 48% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot at 14% natural alcohol. The wine has a beautiful blueberry-scented nose with hints of acacia flowers, licorice, graphite and some subtle charcoal and background oak. Clearly a modern style of Margaux, it is pure, seamless, full-bodied and opulent, and the high glycerin and silky texture of 2009 are brilliantly displayed in this wine. Drink it over the next 15+ years, although it is certainly capable of lasting well past two decades. One of the more difficult estates to manage in southern Margaux is the 300 acres of Lascombes, subdivided into at least 40 to 50 separate plots, making harvest decisions, ripening, and related issues a strategic nightmare. Nevertheless, they seem to have hit pay dirt frequently over the last decade plus."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Midnight oil? Dense black purple to the rim, the 2009 Lascombes has enormous concentration, with loads of graphite, blackberry, and blueberry notes as well as hints of pen ink and truffle. The wine is super-intense, full-bodied, fleshy, and rich. This is another wine that will compete with the 2005, which is certainly the best Lascombes I have ever tasted. (Tasted three times.)"

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the Union de Grand Cru in London. The Lascombes 2009 has a pretty nose that perhaps lacks the complexity, the breeding of its peers, although it develops some attractive floral scents. The palate is medium-bodied with a chocolate-tinged entry, a lot of new oak that rather obfuscates the fruit underneath, leading to a New World tinged finish. Tasted October 2011."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Tasted at a negociant. The Lascombes has a ripe, sweet nose that does not exude the delineation of the Malescot St. Exupery tasted just before. Surprisingly, this sample is a little introverted compared to others, but that might change after bottling of course. The palate is medium-bodied but with very good weight on the palate; the tannins a little brutish at the moment, much more masculine and a little austere, although there is good delineation and perhaps less opulent than previous years. This should show its true potential after bottling...so one to watch. Tasted March 2010."

- NM, Wine Journal

"A wood- and fruit-driven wine, very modern in style. It has the ripest fruit along with dense tannins and concentration. The style is more international than Margaux, but the wine is certainly delicious."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"92-94 Barrel sample. Big ripe and juicy, with a core of dark spice and wood. The wine is full-bodied, richly fruity."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"(48% each merlot and cabernet sauvignon, with 4% petit verdot): Bright red-ruby. Sexy aromas of coffee, nuts and charry oak. Supple, sweet and chocolatey. Nicely concentrated, broad and round, showing a lush texture and a good chewy texture. Finishes with sweet tannins and a lingering element of smoky oak. Lovely claret."

- ST, International Wine Cellar

"Inky, glass-staining purple. Chocolatey torrefaction and herbs currently dominate black fruit aromas on the nose. Much more fruit-dominated in the mouth: pure, rich, almost decadently ripe blackberry and cassis flavors are plush and creamy but possess excellent grip and precision. Very polished tannins give the luscious finish an ultra-smooth texture. Maybe a bit more New than Old World, but this version of Lascombes is much more reminiscent of classic Bordeaux than other recent vintages and appears to be the best vintage here in years."

- ID, International Wine Cellar

"Very dark crimson. Sweet malted milk plus linseed oil. Very sweet start and then lusciously worked tannins. A bit Napa Valley rather than Margaux but there is lots of pleasure here. Just rather awkward tannins on the finish. Date tasted 31st March 2010. Drink 2016-2028."

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

Reviews

“There is the usual dense application of oak here, bringing that deep, toasty, new-barrel aroma to the nose of the wine. It has a spicy, sandalwood character, with darker, more spicy, soot and charcoal elements too. Underneath that I sense some fruit at least, but it is well hidden for now. The oak tannins also show up very quickly on the palate, coarser and more domineering than many of the tannins found elsewhere in this vintage. There is an attractive red fruit spice running through this wine, but it is hard to pick anything out from among the oak staves at present. The substance of the wine is very appealing though, supple and well filled out, with acidity and some savoury elements alongside the fruit. This will need a long time for the oak to integrate, but I suspect great potential here. From a tasting of 2009 Bordeaux at two years of age. 17.5/20 (October 2011)”
- CK, The Wine Doctor

“This is equal parts Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, with 48% of each, with 4% Petit Verdot. A very dense and black-coloured wine with an intense, concentrated, dark and spicy character on the nose. A very polished palate, lots of power here, good fruit too. A creamy substance and texture, an upright although firm tannic core, and there is decent acidity too. Plenty of dry oak here too. A firmer quality to the tannins, but they still hold much promise. Not such a curveball as you might expect in this vintage, although there is still the élevage to come yet of course. From my 2009 Bordeaux primeur assessment. 17-18+/20 (March 2010)”
- CK, The Wine Doctor

“Fine black red, very good concentration of vineyard Cabernet fruit, quite dense with a nice spicy richness, good fragrance on the palate, quite broad and structured, will open early and last well.”
- SS, Decanter.com

“Lovely, dark, intense color. Fruity nose, ripe like Merlot. A hint of truffle and coffee. Right bank aspect. Smooth at the start, creamy development, the wine becomes fat and fleshy on a delicate body and tannins slightly firm in the aftertaste. Normal length. I think the owners, Compagnie Colony Capital, ought to give Mr. Befve more resources so he can raise Lascombes higher. By waiting too long, does this estate risk receding?”
- J-MQ
