

Château Malescot St. Exupéry 2000

CSPC# 753875

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Margaux

General Info

The estate already produced wine in 1608. In 1697 it was sold by Louise Simon Ecoisses Malescot, consul of King Louis XIV at the Parliament of Bordeaux. He gave his name to the property, and his descendants took good care of Malescot and added a large dwelling house and numerous outbuildings, but after the revolution, the property was divided several times between different descendants and sold to different buyers before becoming the property of Count Jean-Baptiste Saint-Exupéry in 1827 who added his name to that of Malescot.

In 1855 Chateau Malescot Saint Exupéry was ranked third grand cru before being sold to a banker from Bordeaux named Fourcade, who renovated the winery and enlarged the vineyard. The chateau passed again through the hands of various owners including Mr. Boissac who built the current castle in 1885 but sold it again in 1901.

Many owners succeeded again and the estate slowly declined until, on 1st June 1955, Paul and Roger Zuger bought it with only seven hectares of vines left.. After nearly 30 years of sustained efforts and attention, the blason of Malescot regained its rank and its desire to go ever higher. Today, the son of Roger, Jean-Luc Zuger, is at the head of the estate that was extended to 23.5 hectares, and he continues the work begun by his grandfather and his father.

Vintage

Mild winter – very wet spring and autumn separated by a particularly fine, dry summer.

Vineyards

23.4 hectares of which 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot. Soil gravel overlaying chalk or marl which slopes towards the Gironde. Fruit picked into trays to prevent crushing.

Harvest

September 27th – October 9th, 2000, in rainy weather. Yield 5,200 litres per hectare.

Vinification/

Maturation

Temperature controlled and matured in 100% new oak and undergoes malolactic in barrel depending on the vintage. Aged on lees with stirring. 14-16 months barrel ageing before being racked without fining or filtration.

Tasting Notes

Dark colour, fine crimson tints. Ripe fruit, mocha and vanilla. Powerful and harmonious with nice, smooth tannins.

Production

8,600 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2010-2030

Scores/Awards

93 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003

95 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010

92 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003

92-94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002

92-94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2001

88-90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - June 2001

91 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2003

17.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com

18 points/4 stars - Decanter.com - Web Only

89 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010

92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 4, 2012

93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 5, 2010

Scores/Awards

"Intense aromas of crushed berries, earth, meat and spice. Full-bodied, with super well-integrated tannins and a long, green tobacco and berry finish. This is an estate on the rise. Superfine. Almost forgotten by some. Best after 2010. 8,600 cases made."

- JS, Wine Spectator



Reviews

"This estate, which has continued to impress me in recent years, hit a home run in 2000. Showing slightly better than I rated it previously, this wine is deep bluish/purple with some lightening at the edge, and its floral nose displays notes of melted licorice, crushed rock, blueberries and black raspberries. A wine of extraordinary balance, equilibrium, and purity, with supple tannins, this medium to full-bodied, concentrated effort is already compelling and has hit its window of full maturity, where it should stay for another 15-20 years."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"This estate has been making fine wine for over a decade but never receives the attention it deserves. A great effort, the 2000 Malescot St.-Exupery exhibits a deep ruby/purple color along with a sweet nose of high-quality oak, minerals, tobacco, black currants, and intriguing floral and anise notes. A wine of great purity, flavor concentration, and uncanny depth that seems to build in the mouth, this is a classic example of a quintessentially elegant, medium to full-bodied Bordeaux that is light on its feet, and impressively nuanced, yet concentrated. Gorgeous! Anticipated maturity: 2007-2022."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"The 2000 boasts a saturated purple color in addition to super ripe fruit in the nose suggesting black currants infused with floral, anise, and subtle wood characteristics. With great purity, flavor concentration, and depth, this is a tour de force in elegant winemaking, where the word "elegant" is not used as a euphemism for dilution. This wine is loaded yet is remarkably delicate and nuanced. It is a brilliant achievement. Anticipated maturity: 2005-2020. This property is fashioning beautiful wines that are quintessential examples of elegance, finesse, and lightness allied to considerable flavor richness ... something only Bordeaux can do."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"This is a concentrated and complete Malescot St.-Exupery. It is the quintessential model of elegance, finesse, and lightness, but the flavors are intense ... a difficult combination to achieve. This dense/opaque purple-colored wine offers a perfumed, floral, blackberry, cassis nose with mineral and new oak subtlety displayed in the background. In the mouth, it is authoritatively flavorful and intense, but does not appear to have a great deal of weight. Yet there is depth, length, and compelling harmony. This brilliant wine is a terrific model for why Bordeaux produces the world's greatest wines, combining intensity of flavor and power without heaviness, something virtually impossible to duplicate anywhere else in the world. Anticipated maturity: 2003-2020."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Lovely rustic nose that has a minerality to it, though a barnyard aroma creeps in after a while. Well-integrated tannins balanced but not powerful. Perhaps dries a little towards the end but a decent enough 2000. Tasted June 2001."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Good deep ruby-red. Explosive aromas of blackcurrant, mocha, coffee, molasses and spices. Sweet but firm, with sound acidity contributing excellent vinosity and leavening the wine's richness. Expressive flavors of raw currant, game and truffle. Thick but not overly fat, finishing with firm tannic spine and excellent persistence."

- ST, International Wine Cellar

"Very scented Margaux nose. Complexity. Great length. Great beauty of flavour and complexity. Great wine and potential. Drink 2012-14."

- Decanter.com

"Earthy, truffle, smoke, tobacco, licorice and blackberry make up the perfume. With soft, round tannins, fresh black cherry and spice, this is starting to drink well."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"This opens up with floral, cassis, orange blossom and spice aromatics. This fresh wine is mouth filling and elegant, ending with a ripe black fruit filled finish."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
