

Pavillon Rouge Du Château Margaux 2016

CSPC# 860778

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

Appellation

Margaux

Classification

2nd wine

Website

<https://www.chateau-margaux.com/en/vins/pavillon-rouge-du-chateau-margaux>

General Info

Sold under the name of "Château Margaux 2nd wine", it took its permanent name of Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux in 1908. After an eclipse between the thirties and the mid-seventies, its production restarted on the arrival of André Mentzelopoulos in 1977 and at first greatly increased in order to improve the quality of the first wine. From the mid – 1990s, the creation of a third wine in its turn, allowed for a more and more rigorous selection for Pavillon Rouge. For a few years now, a third of the harvest has gone into the first wine, barely 30% into the Pavillon Rouge, and the remainder is divided between the third and fourth wines. The quality of Pavillon Rouge has become very close to that of the first wine because all the plots involved contributed to the blending of Château Margaux not so long ago. Of course, there isn't the same complexity, the same depth, the same "magic" but the flavours are close and the balance in the mouth leads to the same subtle senses of power and softness. In general, it is ready to drink a little earlier whilst retaining an excellent potential to age largely beyond 30 or 40 years.

Winemaker

Emile Peynaud & Philippe Bascaules

Vintage

The wet and relatively mild winter led to quite early sprouting in the last week of March. The 400 mm of rain during the first 3 months of the year helped to replenish the ground water after a rather dry 2015. The spring rains came very close together and thus gave the impression that they had been plentiful, whereas in fact, the total of all the rain only amounted to the average of the last 30 years. The vines nevertheless managed to find a few rare, beautiful sunny days to blossom between June 6th and 8th.

The contrast with the summer drought was just as striking. Only 8 mm of rain fell during July and August. Even though the very young plants showed a few marked signs of hydric stress, our old vines behaved perfectly, once again demonstrating this species' incredible capacity to adapt to the climate. Although dry, the summer wasn't exceptionally hot. Only the second half of August was marked by higher-than-normal temperatures. The combination of these factors caused the colour change to be quite spread out. September, with its dry days and cool nights, enabled the grapes to complete their ripening process in optimal conditions.

The harvest of the reds, which was the most staggered in the history of the Estate, took place from September 23rd to October 18th.

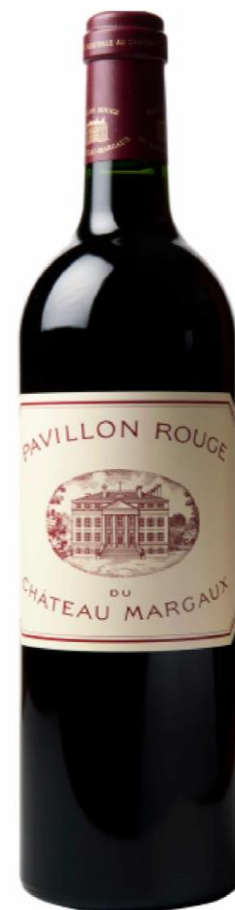
All through the summer, with every passing day, we felt a little more excited at the thought of a great new vintage taking shape...

Vineyards

The estate has 82 hectares under vine, with Cabernet Sauvignon inevitably dominant (75%) with 20% Merlot making up most of the rest, along with a smattering of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Unusually in Margaux, there is a white wine made here, Pavillon Blanc, from 100% Sauvignon Blanc, while the two red wines are, of course, Ch. Margaux itself and Pavillon Rouge. Typically, about 30,000 cases of red wine are made, with the Grand Vin usually accounting for just over 40% of the total. Production of the white wine amounts to less than 3,000 cases.

Harvest

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Vinification/ Maturation	<p>To produce the red wine of Chateau Margaux vinification takes place in vats that are a combination of wood and stainless steel. There are almost 100 vats made from oak and stainless steel for the vinification. The vats range in size from 5 hectoliters, (Which are used for experiments) up to 180 hectoliters, which are for the blending. Malolactic fermentation takes place in vats, except for the press wine, which is undergoing malolactic fermentation in the barrel. The red wine of Chateau Margaux is aged in 100% new oak for 18-24 months, depending on the quality and character of the Bordeaux vintage.</p> <p>A large percentage of the oak barrels used to age their wine are produced at Chateau Margaux. Chateau Margaux is one of the few Bordeaux estates with their own cooperage on the property. Chateau Margaux has been involved in making sure that consumers purchase only, genuine bottles of Margaux since 1989. In that year, they began laser etching their bottles.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>This year again, the Pavillon Rouge has been subjected to very strict selection (26% of the harvest) of the wines from plots some of which were still producing Château Margaux just a few years ago. The strictness of this selection demonstrates our constant demanding attitude with regard to Pavillon Rouge.</p> <p>The blend also denotes these efforts: 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. Thanks to magnificent batches of Cabernet Sauvignon, the tannic framework of this wine is both dense and silky, brilliant, and long. It can definitely no longer be considered merely as a second wine!</p>
Serve with	<p>Chateau Margaux is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Margaux is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.</p>
Production	8,333 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2032
Scores/Awards	<p>93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019 93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - November 2018 91-93 points - Neal Martin, RobertParker.com - April 2017 94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2017 94-96 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017 16.5++ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017 92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017 94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017 90-93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2017 93 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - March 2019 94 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - April 2017 94 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2019 17 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2020 17 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2019</p>
Reviews	<p><i>“Very refined and focused, with fine-grained sandalwood and alder accents lining a core of stylish, gently mulled cherry and blackberry fruit flavors. A perfumed lilac note weaves around the fruit on the elegant finish. Approachable now, but buried minerality lurks, and this is sneaky long, so cellaring is easily doable. Best from 2022 through 2035. 8,333 cases made.”</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>“Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 Pavillon Rouge du Château Margaux (composed of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot) bursts forth with exuberant Morello cherries, black raspberries and cassis scents accented by touches of menthol, dark chocolate and garrigue plus a waft of tree bark. The palate is medium-bodied, very elegant, vivacious and fresh with satiny tannins and a nice long finish.”</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p>

Reviews *“The 2016 Pavillon Rouge du Chateau Margaux contains the highest proportion of Cabernet Sauvignon ever at 84%, with 13% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, representing 26% of the total harvest. Matured in 50-60% new oak, it has a very pure redcurrant and cranberry scented bouquet with a touch of graphite. The palate is medium-bodied with quite firm tannin on the entry, thanks to the high percentage of Cabernet, and it is saline in the mouth with a pinch of white pepper towards the finish. It will need three or four years in bottle.”*
- NM, RobertParker.com

“Very concentrated and tannic Pavillon Rouge. Muscular. Full body and lots of intense fruit. Four-square.”
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“While this wine has high acidity, it also has intense tannins and concentrated black-cherry fruits. It is poised between a firm, concentrated structure and sophisticated fruitiness, suggesting the wine will age well over many years.”
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“Very strict selection (only 28% went into their grand vin cf 35% in 2015). 26% went into Pavillon, 20% into the third wine, and 20% sold off in bulk. 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot. Quite bright cherry red rather than deep crimson. Great quality sandy tannins. Really zesty. But light and very aérien. Really lifted. Drink: 2022-2032.”
- JH, JancisRobinson.com

“This is beautifully fragrant, with the highest ever level of Cabernet Sauvignon in the Pavillon because the Merlots were not quite up to their usual high standard, and two plots that usually go into the grand vin were put into this instead. This has a taut structure, with black cherry and cassis from a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. Clear, precise, complex black fruits and charcoal edging provide finesse to this very pretty and successful wine, although it will struggle to live up to the legendary 2015. The reds at Margaux finished up on 18th October after a full month of picking, one of the longest on record. The berries were smaller in size than last year, but there were more of them per vine, hence the higher yield that still achieves great concentration. Pavillon this year was 26% of the overall harvest, compared to 23% last year. 70IPT. Drink: 2024-2040.”
- JA, Decanter.com

“Perfectly poised between opulent and refined, rich and elegant, this is a beautiful example of Chateau Ruby red in color, this is what Japan must smell like when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom. Followed by an array of sweet plum and earthy notes, this medium-bodied wine is elegant and sophisticated with sweet, fresh red berries in the finish. Balance, finesse, refinement is its mantra. The wine was produced from a blend of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot, reaching 13% Alcohol with pH of 3.6. Of the harvest, 26% was used for Pavillon Rouge du Margaux.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2016 Pavillon Rouge is a gorgeous second wine, and one of the best recent vintages I have tasted. There is remarkable purity and precision to the flavors, while all the elements are in perfect balance for a wine at this level. Red-toned fruits, sweet floral notes and silky tannins infuse this expressive, flat-out delicious wine. The 84% Cabernet Sauvignon is the highest ever here. Quite simply, the 2016 is a superb Pavillon Rouge. Tasted two times.”
- AG, Vinous
