

Château Duhart Milon 2010

CSPC# 756556

750mlx6

13.5% Alc./Vol.

Grape Variety	73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot
Appellation	Pauillac
General Info	Classified 4th growth in 1855. The fine wine from Château Duhart-Milon is often described as a classic version of the Pauillac appellation. It has a distinguished and reserved character. The courtier Abraham Lawton noted as early as 1815 that "it has firm taste, a fine colour, and a pronounced sap". This strong personality of Château Duhart-Milon remains accurate today Vinified by the team of Lafite Rothschild. Duhart Milon raised its concentration and its savours in mouth. Since the harvest of the 2003 vintage, the domaine has its own team of vintners. The vat room and cellars were extended and totally renovated in 2003. The current owner is Baron Eric de Rothschild and the winemaker is Charles Chevalier .
Vintage	The vineyard cycle began with a cold, relatively wet winter, resulting in a slightly later bud-break than in 2009, in mid-April. Growth was then boosted by dry, sunny weather in April. May and June were characterized by alternating periods of rain and sunshine. June began with a cold spell that complicated the flowering of the Merlot, resulting in flower abortion and uneven grape size. Fortunately, July was very dry (less than 20 mm of rain) with relatively high temperatures, which helped the vines to catch up from the delays caused during flowering. August and September were very dry, with beautiful daytime temperatures and cool nights creating ideal conditions for the grapes to slowly reach optimum ripeness.
Soil	Fine gravel mixed with aeolian sands on tertiary limestone bedrock.
Vineyards	The vineyard of Chateau Duhart-Milon is on the Milon hillside on the western side of Chateau Lafite Rothschild. It is located in Pauillac, a small village and port. The estate is made up of 152 hectares, including 73 hectares of vineyards (Cabernet Sauvignon 67% and Merlot 33%). 7500 feet of vines per hectare. The average age of the vineyard is 30 years. A single team has managed the Chateau since 1962, it is the same team which supervises Château Lafite Rothschild too.
Climate	Maritime, moderated by the Gironde estuary and Atlantic Ocean, pine forests provide insulation from strong winds off the ocean and help to lessen summer temperatures.
Harvest	The harvests at Duhart-Milon took place from 21 September to 12 October. As a result of the different soil types, the Chateau harvested each plot separately in order to ensure that the grapes were picked when they were fully ripe.
Maturation	Aged 50% in new barrels for 14 months.
Tasting Notes	A delicate wine, the initially supple tannins gradually become more powerful. Well-structured on the palate with good density. Precise, fairly full-bodied finish.
Serve with	Decant 2+ hours prior to serving. Serve at 16-18 degrees celcius.
Production	20,000-25,000 cases made annually
Cellaring	2013-2043
Scores/Awards	91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2013 92-95 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011 96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013 94-96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - May 2011 94 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2013 92-94 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011 92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2013 94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2011 93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 1, 2013 91-93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 25, 2011 86-88 points - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2011 17.5+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2011



Scores/Awards **18 points/5 stars** - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2011
93 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2011 (score only)
95 points - Jane Anson, The New Bordeaux - April 2012
91-95 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2011
16+ points - Farr Vintner - April 2011
93-95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 20, 2011
89 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2011 (score only)
94-96+ points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 2011
93-95 points – John Sweeney, JJBuckley Wines - April 2011

Reviews *“Well-polished, with sleek edges to the fleshy plum, cassis and blackberry fruit, while the finish is embedded with black licorice and violet notes. Approachable now, but the stuffing is there to cellar this for a bit. Drink now through 2025.”*
- JM, Wine Spectator

“ This plump red offers black tea, warm ganache, fig and black currant confiture notes backed by a smoky finish, with pillowy but lengthy tannins. Acidity then rushes in at the very end, adding more length. An impressive step up for this wine. Tasted non-blind. Score range: 92-95.”
- JM, Wine Spectator

“Dense purple, with classic notes of cedar and lead pencil shavings as well as gobs of back currants and licorice, the wine has a full-bodied mouthfeel with fabulous precision and density. It also possesses a long, silky finish with moderately high tannins, but they are ripe and well-integrated. The wood is clearly pushed to the background in this dense, full-bodied Pauillac, which should drink beautifully for 30+ years. If you can't afford Lafite-Rothschild (few can) or even their second wine, Carruades de Lafite, you still have Duhart Milon, which has become a profound wine over the last 5-7 years due to the extensive amount of attention and investment the Rothschilds have pumped into this estate. This blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Merlot is fabulous, a dead ringer for Lafite in a great vintage. (It is probably better than many of the Lafites of the 1960s and 1970s, and even some of the vintages in the 1980s.)”
- RP, Wine Advocate

“This large estate (190 acres) has been on a qualitative rise for nearly a decade. A classic Pauillac, the opaque purple-colored 2010, a blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot, reveals beautiful notes of creme de cassis, licorice, tobacco leaf and forest floor. Bigger and more muscular than most previous vintages, this full-bodied Pauillac possesses stunning density as well as intensity. Atypically high in alcohol for this property, it requires 5-7 years of cellaring and should age effortlessly for 25-30 years.”
- RP, Wine Advocate

“Tasted at Chateau Lafite-Rothschild. There is clearly a tangible difference in quality judging by the aromatics between the Moulin de Duhart and the Grand Vin. Here, there is superb intensity with blackberry, bilberry, hints of vanilla and graphite. The palate is very well balanced and perhaps more approachable than vintages of Duhart would have been in the past (perhaps due to the 27% Merlot content). The acidity is taut and the finish has a pastille-like purity. Excellent – although will it surpass the stupendous 2009? Tasted Nov 2012.”
- NM, Wine Journal

“A blend of 73% Cabernet Sauvignon (slightly less than 2009) and 27% Merlot, cropped between 24th September and 12th October, the Duhart has a well-defined, classic Cabernet bouquet with blackberry, smoke and a touch of cigar box. Quite Zen-like and introspective in a way but very fine delineation and class. The palate is very well balanced with very ripe Cabernet fruit, just a touch of spice and dried herbs coming through, very Duhart, very Pauillac in style with a slightly austere Pauillac finish that I really appreciate. I probably prefer this to the 2009. Excellent. Drink 2017-2030+ Tasted March 2011.”
- NM, Wine Journal

“A wine with an intense sous bois, fresh tobacco and dried flower character on the nose and palate. Full body, with ultra-fine tannins and an attractive finish. It's structured yet polished with a beauty and stature.”
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

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- Reviews** *"Juicy black currant fruit mingles with bright acidity and dark-chocolate tannins. This often overlooked chateau, with the same production team as Lafite-Rothschild, has an intense and concentrated 2010, balanced superbly between firmness and fruitiness."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "91-93 There is a certain toughness here. The dense and firm character gives a solid, textured wine, packed with acidity. Foursquare and chunky."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "(73% cabernet sauvignon and 27% merlot) Opaque ruby-purple; this really stains the glass. Intense herbal, cola and coffee notes keep the blackcurrant aroma in check, but I find this nose ultimately lacks grace. Straightforward and austere, with blackberry, cedar and herbal flavors displaying good length. Finishes with a nice peppery kick but this Pauillac currently lacks a little charm and complexity. Perhaps all it needs is a little time."*
- ST, International Wine Cellar
- "Extremely deep crimson. Sweet prune start – looks much more intense than Carruades, presumably because of all the Cabernet. Very introvert; not much nose. Juicy, fresh and liquorice – lots of energy. Lots of freshness. Dry finish. Very subtle but with extremely marked tannins. Just a little rugged. But the fruit is wonderfully concentrated..."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Concentrated black fruits, powerful yet lifted, structured and long term elegance, a great Chateau Duhart Milon Rothschild in 2010."*
- SS, Decanter.com
- "This wine should offer a slower rise in price than Lafite but still enormous pleasure and potential. It gives an immediate hit of plum and intense damson, and is rich in structure and power, with concentrated liquorice and savoury herbs. 73% cabernet sauv, 27% merlot. Again approx 13.5%. 95/100. Drink 2022-2042."*
- JA, The New Bordeaux
- "Duhart Milon 73% Cabernet Sauvignon and 27% Merlot, (which is also similar to what the property used in 2005,) the wine opens with sweet oak, truffle, cassis and tobacco notes. This medium/full bodied cassis filled wine has ripe tannins and a long, polished black fruit filled finish. 93-95 Pts"*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "The sweetness of the fruit gives richness on the nose and a plush fleshy feel on the palate. Black cherry and cassis dominate enriched by a touch of liquorice and dark chocolate. Towards the back there is a balancing freshness."*
- Derek Smedley MW
- "This Pauillac is produced by the team who make Lafite, and they have been on top form in recent vintages under Charles Chevalier. Duhart used to be very good value for money but the "Carruades effect" seems to be spreading here. 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot - élevage in 50% new oak. This Pauillac is made very much in the style of Lafite itself. It is certainly weightier and fleshier than the Carruades this year. Plump and polished with a good central core of black cherry fruit. Notes of cedar and lead pencil. Toasty. Firm but ripe tannins on the finish with a delicious, focused, blackcurrent core."*
- Farr Vintners
- "Very dense; up to the rim; saturated; lovely depth to the nose; touch tighter and more pent up than the Carruades; cool and very deep; really intense cassis and blackcurrants; very pure and very focused; freshness on the palate with layers; very creamy and ripe blackcurrant flavours but with depth and length; lots of sublimation here; chewy blackcurrant finish. Lovely length. [73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot alc 13.5] 94-96+/100 Tasted 7 April at Lafite."*
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

Reviews *“73% cabernet sauvignon, 27% merlot. The merlot harvest began in September and ended October 4th while cabernet was harvested October 1 through 12th. A bit muted on the nose, but dark chocolate, coffee, and spicy black pepper prevail with some swirling. On the palate, flavors of red raspberry and mocha are balanced by a chalky minerality and zippy acidity. Less lushness here than Carruades but more precision. This wine already tastes great but will continue to improve over the next 12-15 years.”*
- JS, JJ Buckley Wines

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