

Château Grand Puy Lacoste 2009

CSPC# 749555

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc
Appellation	Pauillac
General Info	<p>5th classified growth in 1855. The name of Grand-Puy comes from the old expression "puy" which means "hill, little hill", and this land is mentioned in documents dating from the Middle Ages. Indeed, the vineyard extends on one of the ridges of land which were made the first wines of the Medoc. Since the sixteenth century, the thought has passed from generation to generation and, by way of alliances between families, he stayed within the same descent until 1920, before resuming a destiny with Borie family in 1978.</p> <p>Under the leadership of François-Xavier Borie (Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou), Grand Puy Lacoste is the perfect example of a classic Pauillac, tannic and full bodied. A wine for keeping, which makes part of the top of the Medoc wines.</p>
Vineyards	<p>The vines of this Fifth Growth chateau stretch across 55 hectares of the Pauillac commune, lying across well-draining gravel soil. The result is a concentrated, polished wine, showing classic Pauillac notes of dark berries, plum, spices and earth. These bottlings are dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, which benefits from the deep gravel topsoil with a limestone basis. The Cabernet provides structure which allows these wines to generally outperform their classification. There's good aging potential here too. The estate produces a second wine called Lacoste-Borie. 90 hectares around the castle. Grape varieties of vines 75% Cabernet Sauvignon - Merlot 20% - 5% Cabernet Franc; 10,000 vines / hectare; Average vine age 38 years</p>
Harvest	24 September - 7 October 2009
Maturation	<p>Vinification Long fermentation (about 3 weeks)</p> <p>Maturing in French oak barrels (fine) with 70% new oak for 16 to 18 months depending on the vintage.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>This wine has a dark red dress intense. The bouquet reveals aromas fruit and complex notes of ripe cassis. The palate is precise, very dense, and continues on a frame with suave tannins, elegant and charming. All form a nice unit, combining structure, purity, freshness and finesse. This is a wine of great balance and long aftertaste. In a word, Grand Puy Lacoste a great style with a bright future!</p>
Production	15,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2013-2025
Scores/Awards	<p>93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012</p> <p>94-97 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010</p> <p>95 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012</p> <p>91-93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010</p> <p>95 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012</p> <p>94-96 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010</p> <p>92-94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate In Asia - July 2010</p> <p>93 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 1, 2012</p> <p>88-91 points - Ian D'Agata, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2010</p> <p>17.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010</p> <p>18.5 points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - October 2011</p> <p>17.5-18.5+ points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - March 2010</p> <p>18 points/5 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010</p> <p>96 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2010</p>



Reviews

"This is a step up, with ample black currant confiture and roasted fig notes allied to a racy graphite and iron spine. Very sleek through the finish, despite its heft, with a long finish filled with cassis bush and tobacco. Best from 2013 through 2025. 15,000 cases made."

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Lovely nose of sweet currant and blueberry that follows through to a full body, with juicy, velvety tannins and a licorice, tar and dark chocolate finish. Like it. The new 1982? Score range: 94-97"

- JS, Wine Spectator

"Performing better from bottle than it did from cask (and comparable to their wines 2005, 2000, 1990 and 1982), this is a great classic from Xavier Borie's estate situated on the back roads west of the town of Pauillac. Its dense ruby/purple color is followed by hints of spring flowers, crushed rocks, black currants, cedar and earth/underbrush. Precise and elegant as well as backward and foreboding, it should put on weight in the bottle and evolve for two decades. Very concentrated as well as velvety-textured, it is a beauty of finesse, balance, purity and nobility. It will benefit from 5-7 more years of bottle age."

- RP, Wine Advocate

"I was surprised that this wine was not more concentrated given the overall character of the vintage, and I would rate it behind the 2005, 2000, 1990, and 1982. Nevertheless, it boasts this estate's classic creme de cassis character as well as a soft, round, medium to full-bodied mouth feel, pure fruit, and silky tannins, but not the weight, depth, or profound concentration of the top 2009 Pauillacs. Still, this cuvee will be approachable young, and should evolve easily for two decades. (Tasted two times.)"

- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the chateau. The Grand Puy Lacoste 2009 has a precise nose, very minerally, subtle floral notes, wild hedgerow and crushed stone. The fruit has ebbed away at the moment, but it will come back. The palate is just wonderful, very precise with wonderful minerality. Very fresh and tense, wonderful clarity towards the finish. This is a slightly more feminine Grand Puy Lacoste and merit a higher score further down the line. Tasted November 2011."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Tasted at the chateau. A blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot and 2% Cabernet Franc picked the between the 24th September and 7th October. The nose is introverted and broody at first, hints of seaweed inflecting the pure black fruits. Very minerally – lots of character here. The palate is medium-bodied, the tannins a little firmer and structure than other Pauillacs, which is exactly in keeping with the estate's style. Lovely poise on the finish, wonderful focus and edginess with a savoury note on the finish. Insistent grip. Superb persistency and yet typically conservative in its youth. No doubt it will demand at least ten years cellaring, but it will be worth the wait. Tasted March 2010."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Notes of blackcurrant, ripe plums, cigar box and a suggestion of violets on the nose. There's a high level of grainy tannins giving some astringency on the palate, countered by high acidity with a good concentration of fruit. Medium+ bodied, long finish."

- LPB, Wine Advocate in Asia

"A complex, dusty tannin wine, layering smoky wood and black fruits with the firmest dry character. Very intense, rich, dense and potentially powerful."

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Very firm and taut and Pauillac - less luscious than some 2009s. Very fresh and with real vigour and rigour. Lovely rich velvety stuff."

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

Reviews *"(80% cabernet sauvignon, 18% merlot and 2% cabernet franc; pH 3.72; 75 IPT; 70% new oak) Purple ruby. Smoky blackberry, blueberry juice, chocolate and a whiff of iron on the nose. With air, this became silky, pliant and rather easygoing, with good depth to the flavors of small dark berries and flint. Finishes with creamy tannins, good viscosity and sneaky length. Almost too easy to drink presently: should it develop more complexity, weight and depth, my score will look ungenerous."*
- ID, International Wine Cellar

"The fruit here is restrained, but there is a freshness to it I find more reassuring, with a delightful, lifted, clean and lightly perfumed style that it wears rather well. It reminds me a little of a Pessac such is the lifted, perfumed, nuanced elegance. The palate has a delightful stony freshness, with an elegant presence through the middle, the perfumed fruit kept aloft by a light-footed structure which just sings. The finish is soft but levels out to give a long, lingering character. This has a very impressive purity and finesse. Overall this is a great effort and one of my favourites from the appellation. From a tasting of 2009 Bordeaux at two years of age. 18.5/20 (October 2011)"
- CK, The Wine Doctor

"Cabernet Sauvignon 80%, Merlot 18%, Cabernet Franc 2%. 70% new oak. Yield 44 hl/ha. Vibrant hue, cherry red core, and a bright pink-red rim. Dark and characterful fruit on the nose, full of Pauillac spice, with a crystalline tinge to the plum and cherry fruit. Beautiful texture on entry, it has the vibrant fruit of a cooler vintage than this, with a supple and elegant texture. Very well integrated and cottony-silky tannins, gently coating the mouth, together with lots of fresh acidity. Lovely fruit, but with fine structure for the future. Substantial finish with a good length. One for the classicists (including me). From my 2009 Bordeaux primeur assessment. 17.5-18.5+/20 (March 2010)"
- CK, The Wine Doctor

"Black red, big, smoky, almost leathery fruit, really great purity and intensity of flavour and great freshness and depth, with the tannins perfectly absorbed. Drink 2016-35."
- SS, Decanter.com

"A very impressive Pauillac that won't require you taking out a second mortgage to buy a case, this is deeply coloured and profound. Big and boldly structured, but not over-done. Very Cabernet in style, with lovely richness and concentration, fresh acidity and polished tannins. The decision to use less Merlot than usual is vindicated by what's in the glass. 10+ years."
- TA, timatkin.com
