

Château Lynch Moussas 2008

CSPC# 721265

750mlx12

12.5 % alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety	75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot
Appellation	Pauillac
Classification	5th Grand Cru Classé - classified in 1855
Website	https://www.lynch-moussas.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/web_lynchmoussas2008_fr.pdf
General Info	5th cru classified in 1855. Chateau Lynch Moussas (like the Château Lynch Bages) owes its name to the Lynch family, a family of Irish origin established in France since 1691, which acquired it during the 18th century. Phylloxera in the late 19th century and the economic crisis of the early 20th century have undermined the estate which was bought in 1919 by Jean Castéja. After the arrival of Emile Castéja on the estate in 1969, a major planting, rebuilding and restructuring program was put in place to restore the estate to its former glory. His son Phillippe Castéja is now at the head of Chateau Lynch Moussas which makes part of the large portfolio of the Castéja family managed through the wine merchant Borie Manoux.
Winemakers	Philippe Castéja. Denis Dubourdieu- consultant.
Vintage	In years when Bordeaux winegrowers face adverse weather conditions, they usually speak of a millésime de vigneron, meaning that only the most perspicacious, courageous and committed professionals will be able to produce quality wine. This was the case in 2008, where a rainy and cool spring impeded vine growth and meant a late start for blossoms. In addition, a relatively cold and slightly moist August slowed the ripening of grapes. With the harvest period beginning about 10 days after the date selected the previous year, 2008 was therefore a rather late vintage. In such a case, the behavior of the vine depends on the quality of the soil in which it is planted, but also to a great extent on the winegrower's expertise and the hours of labour expended by personnel in the vineyard, before the harvest.
Vineyards	Chateau Lynch-Moussas' wine originates from the estate's 57 hectares of vineyards morcellated through the commune of Pauillac. The soil for these vineyards is typical of the Pauillac consisting mostly of gravel over a limestone subsoil. The vines are divided between Cabernet Sauvignon (70%) and Merlot (30%). Fermentation and maceration on for 15-20 days in thermo-regulated vats. Aging for 18 months in oak barrels (50% in oak barrels new and 50% in one-wine barrels).
Maturation	This wine spent 14-18 months in oak barrels. Aged 60% in new barrels.
Tasting Notes	The color is dark. The intense nose is marked by red fruits. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied and ample, affordable in the early years while providing good care
Serve with	Rack of lamb with porcini mushrooms, leg seven-hour lamb with broad beans, beef tenderloin with mushrooms.
Production	14,000 cases made
Cellaring	Drink now - 2016
Scores/Awards	89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2011 88 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - May 2011 88-89 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #182 - April 2009 87 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2012 88 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2011 87-89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2009 88 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2011 88-90 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - December 31, 2009 16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - March 15, 2011 15.5 points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - November 2012



Scores/Awards **15+ points** - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - October 2010
15.5-16.5 points - Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor - April 2009
16 points - Decanter.com

Reviews *"Tangy, with damson plum, kirsch and red licorice flavors that are well-defined and laced with bright iron and tobacco notes. There's nice focusing grip on the finish. Drink now through 2016. 14,000 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"A dark plum/ruby/garnet color is accompanied by aromas of damp earth, forest floor and sweet red and black currant fruit, ripe tannin and medium body. This well-made effort can be enjoyed now and over the next 7-10 years. Drink 2011-2021"
- RP, Wine Advocate

"A fruity, deep ruby/purple-colored Pauillac, Lynch Moussas' 2008 offers up uncomplicated, straightforward notes of black currants, cherries, tobacco leaf, and underbrush. It is a medium-bodied, ripe, plush, attractive, consumer-friendly offering to consume during its first 10-15 years of life. Drink 2009-2024."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the UGC 2008 tasting in London. This has a light, autumnal bouquet with blackberry, wild hedgerow, cedar and a touch of tobacco. It would benefit from more vigour but nicely defined and natural. This has a fleshier mouth-feel than I expected, more approachable with better fruit concentration, although the finish is a little muffled at the moment. Certainly, going in the right direction and it slips down the throat with ease. Drink 2012-2020. Tasted October 2010."
- NM, Wine Journal

"En primeur barrel sample. A blend of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon and 23% Merlot cropped at 44hl/ha, the Lynch Moussas is reticent on the nose, especially juxtaposed next to Batailley. The palate is medium-bodied, nicely balanced, foursquare but well defined with tobacco, cedar-infused black fruits. Not a long-term '08, but it has a degree of elegance rarely found in this estate. Medium-term, classic Pauillac. Tasted April 2009."
- NM, Wine Journal

"A juicy wine, showing attractive fruit and black currant acidity that gives the wine a lift. Maybe not hugely concentrated, but a good bargain from Pauillac."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"An intensely spicy wine, full of exotic flavors, dried prunes, figs and a powerful layer of cinnamon. The wine certainly has character."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"Mid crimson. Lightweight nose with some toasty resolution Quite marked acidity. Plus, sweetness on the finish. Drink 2014-2023"
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"An attractive nose here, the fruit showing cleaner lines than some grander wines in this vintage in this appellation. It has a crunchy, red berry fruit character to it. The palate is supple and gently juicy, with a fine fruit character, and a sense of tobacco and spice behind. The structure is a little soft, the overall feel integrated, the tannins only showing towards the middle and end on a second taste. This is a good effort for Lynch-Moussas especially considering the vintage. From a 2008 Bordeaux tasting at four years of age. 15.5/20 (Nov 2012)"
- CK, Wine Doctor

"Rather an inexpressive nose to this wine, and what I do get has a slightly warm, hot-smoked feel to it. Rather bold and shell-like substance on the palate, within this a frame of fruit which seems quite stretched although it has a rounder substance on the finish. Rather supple in fact and easy-going. The tannins are there but are soft and in keeping with the rest of the wine. Seems to have a little more structure towards the end. Needs time but this will drink earlier than some of the other wines I think."
- CK, Wine Doctor

Reviews *“Darker fruit on the nose, with notes of black olive. This is followed by a lovely dense texture on entry, with good zippy fruit. A nice weight in the middle, broad and slightly loose knit, but fleshy, with substance and tannin at its heart. There is potential here. From my 2008 Bordeaux primeur assessment. 15.5-16.5+/20 (April 2009)”*
- CK, Wine Doctor

“Deep plummy-red, lifted red fruits, smooth and classy and nicely balanced, quite forward and attractive. Drink 2013-20.”
- SS, Decanter.com
