

# Château Pichon-Longueville – Comtesse de Lalande 2019

CSPC# 814278

750mlx6

14.12% alc./vol.

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| <b>Grape Variety</b>                | 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc   |
| <b>Appellation</b>                  | Pauillac  |
| <b>Classification</b>               | Second Growth. Deuxième Grand Cru Classé in 1855  |
| <b>Website</b>                      | <a href="http://www.pichon-comtesse.com/">http://www.pichon-comtesse.com/</a>   |
| <b>Sustainability</b>               | Sustainable viticulture with biodynamic practices on 28 ha  |
| <b>General Info</b>                 | <p>Pichon Longueville and Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande were originally one huge property. When Baron Joseph de Pichon Longueville died in 1850, his estate was split between his two surviving children, Raoul and Virginie. Raoul's part became Château Pichon Longueville, while Virginie's became Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande.</p> <p>Edouard and Louis Mialhe, descendants of an old Bordeaux family of vineyard owners and wine brokers, bought Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande in 1925. May Eliane de Lencquesaing, Edouard's daughter, inherited it in 1978 and ran it with great devotion and rigour for 30 years, during which time it gained international renown. Finally, in 2007, eager to ensure the continuing success of the estate in the future, she decided to sell it to another family firm, the Louis Roederer Champagne house.</p>   |
| <b>Winemaker</b>                    | Nicolas Glumineau & Stéphanie Danglede  |
| <b>Vintage</b>                      | <p>The years go on ... but they are never the same!</p> <p>This is what makes our wine profession so rich: we are constantly adapting and questioning ourselves to truly reveal the soul of our terroir.</p> <p>2019 was a very sunny year with major drought. This vintage is characterized by a vibrant and mineral tension, a fullness and balance between power and elegance: a new interpretation of Pauillac by Pichon Comtesse...</p> <p>With temperatures above seasonal averages, the Winter was mild and unusually dry. Under these conditions, the BUD BREAK was particularly early, from March 20th. The coolness and rainfall in the Spring slowed down the development of the vine and adjusted back to its average period of FLOWERING between the end of May and the beginning of June. The unstable Spring weather caused slight coulure on the Cabernet, around mid-June. The heat and the sun then settled in for the duration. A little rain in mid-July and early August favoured a rapid and homogeneous VERAISON from the 9th to 14th August. Slow ripening, with dry, very sunny conditions and cool nights allowed the HARVEST to start on September 16th in a very healthy vineyard. Weather instability returned at the end of September and lasted until the end of the harvest on October 8th, without impacting on the quality of our grapes.</p> |
| <b>Vineyards</b>                    | The terrace of Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande offers a magnificent view of the vineyards of Pauillac and Saint-Julien and the Gironde Estuary. The vines lie mainly in Pauillac, yet 11 of its 86 hectares are actually in Saint-Julien. Pichon Comtesse is Château Latour's neighbour and, like the illustrious Premier Cru, has poor soil of gravel mixed with clay, which benefits from excellent drainage. Poor, yet ideal, since the vine needs hardship if it is to produce good wine, and its roots must plunge several metres down in the quest for nutrition. An unusually high percentage of the vineyard is planted with Petit Verdot, which brings freshness and great aromatic complexity to the wine. In very sunny years such as 1982, 1986, 1989 and 1990, in which the grapes reach excellent maturity, it has a remarkable influence. Since Roederer took over the estate, major work on restructuring the 78-hectare vineyard has been undertaken. Thorough studies of the soils and sub-soils have produced very detailed mapping of the many different plots and better knowledge of the terroir. A replanting programme has been launched to ensure varieties and their root stocks are best suited to the type of soil.  |
| <b>Harvest</b>                      | Picking took place September 16-October 8 with yields of 42 hectoliters per hectare.  |
| <b>Vinification/<br/>Maturation</b> | To produce the wine of Chateau Pichon Lalande, the vinification takes place in 70, temperature controlled, stainless steel vats that vary in size that range from as small as 50 hectoliters and increase in size to 50, 70, 80,  |



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| <b>Vinification/<br/>Maturation</b> | 120 and even 150 hectoliter vats. This allows for very precise fermentation work. Malolactic fermentation takes place in tank. Aged 60% new oak for 18 months.  |
| <b>Tasting Notes</b>                | Notes of cedar, cocoa, and custard immediately evident on the nose followed by a release of pure and intoxicating notes of blackcurrant and peony. Long and intense, the aromatic structure evolves from classic notes of citron and spices (cloves, black pepper) to luscious tones of praline and blackcurrant. At first, well-balanced and smooth in the mouth, moving onto a very open mid-palate and a rich, savoury long-lasting finish, thanks to silky, refined, and well-integrated tannins.   |
| <b>Serve with</b>                   | Chateau Pichon is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.   |
| <b>Production<br/>Cellaring</b>     | Average of 15,000 cases made annually<br>Drink 2025-2042  |
| <b>Scores/Awards</b>                | <p><b>96 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022</p> <p><b>97-99 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - June 2020</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p><b>98-99 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020</p> <p><b>18 points</b> - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - December 2021</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>100 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p><b>98-100 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>94-97 points</b> - Farr Vintners - May 2020</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>97-99 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Thomas Parker MW - March 2022</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020</p> <p><b>98-99 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p><b>18.5 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2022</p> <p><b>19 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>  |
| <b>Reviews</b>                      | <p><i>"Delivers a gorgeous wave of just-warmed cassis, plum puree, and black cherry reduction flavors that glides through so suavely, thanks to a silky, refined structure. This is no lightweight though, as there's a rivet of iron to pin down the finish while savory and floral details play out amid the fruit. Offers the density, purity, and drive to hang with the more long-lived wines of the vintage."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"One of the wines of the vintage, the 2019 Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande soars from the glass with complex aromas of wild berries, tobacco leaf, loamy soil, burning embers and hints of violets and rose petals. Full-bodied, deep, and complete, it's velvety and seamless, with a broad attack and a multidimensional core of lively, succulent fruit. Concluding with a long, expansive finish, it's a remarkable young Pauillac that will offer many years of thrilling drinking. Congratulations to Nicolas Glumineau and his team, who are ushering in a new golden age at an address where standards were always very high. (WK)"</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"A blend of 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc (with no Petit Verdot this year), the 2019 Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande came in at an alcohol of 14.15% and a pH of 3.7. Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it sails out of the glass with a stunning array of Black Forest cake, warm cassis, and wild blueberries scents with underlying hints of Morello cherries, redcurrant jelly, pencil shavings, menthol and aniseed with a touch of charcoal. The medium-bodied palate packs a lot of fruit into an elegant package, featuring very finely grained, silt-like tannins and seamless freshness, finishing long with loads of lingering mineral and exotic spice accents."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> |

- Reviews** *“Classic aromas of lead-pencil shavings, blackcurrants and blueberries, as well as some as, following through to a full body with polished tannins and a fresh, delicious finish. Wonderful crafted.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “Crazy aromas of sweet tobacco and black fruit. Tar and lead pencil, too. Blackcurrants and blackberries. Solid core of fruit and ripe tannins here. It’s full-bodied and chewy. Extremely long. Fascinating wine. Structure with elegance. Extremely creamy and very, very melted together. A classically proportioned wine. 71% cabernet sauvignon, 23% merlot and 6% cabernet franc.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “96–98. Barrel Sample. This is a stylish wine that offers rich, smoky tannins and layers of black currant fruits. The tannins are dominant at this stage of barrel aging, but the intense fruits are intent on pushing forward. The beautiful aftertaste is all freshness as well as density. It’s for long-term aging.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “Just so poised and refined. Fragrant and pure with leafy, garden-fresh, dark-fruit aromatics. Long and linear with plenty of fruit and drive. A profusion of tannins but the resolution adjusted to rein-in power. Shades of the benchmark 1996 with an increase of Cabernet in the blend. Drink 2028 – 2045.”*  
- JL, JancisRobinson.com
- “More leafy than most of the Pauillac’s in this small selection, very much what I expect from Comtesse. Dry, firm, elegant texture, really elegant in its dry finesse. Very cassis-focused, dry, and refined. 14.1%.”*  
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- “Expressive and aromatic on the nose, this is giving such a lot of nuance. Gorgeous texture on the palate, smooth, seductive with perfumed fruit that is dense and layered. Just so complete offering a great combination of blackcurrant fruit against menthol/liquorice notes with balanced acidity. You get the juiciness, which is vibrant but also a seriously dark, brooding edge with spice but lovely freshness and lift overall. It’s serious no doubt but has that real air of refinement and finesse to the overall profile. Excellent quality.”*  
- GH, Decanter.com
- “A serious, muscled Pichon Comtesse that grabs you from the first nose. The width and texture is evident, feeling both more plush and supple in its fruit character. It’s elegant and balanced but packed full of textured raspberries, blueberries and cassis, juicy, with a rise on the finish and clear tannic grip. Very Pauillac in style, more so than the 2018 with great length. Not as structured as the 2016 or the 2010 but not far off and this is easily one of the wines of the vintage. Its heft shares some similarities to its neighbour Latour, which is not always the case in this most feminine of Pauillac wines. Closes down pretty quickly on the finish, suggesting the initial rich fruit is a hint of what is to come but that it will take its time to show itself in bottle.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com
- “You feel the clever construction of this wine from the start, and the architecture shines through. A linen edge of the tannins, with grain and texture that holds things back through the mid palate. Subdued power at the moment, with hints of butterscotch and black chocolate, bilberry fruits that are not overly sweet but have succulence and impact. Good quality, one to cellar and look forward to opening in the future. 60% new oak, 4hl/h yield. No Petit Verdot in this vintage.”*  
- JA, Inside Bordeaux
- “Absolutely compelling from the initial swirl, sniff, and sip. It takes no time to recognize this as being an incredible, future legendary Bordeaux! The perfume is mesmerizing with its display of flowers, spices, tobacco leaf, cassis, plum and blackberries. But it is the texture, with its layers of silky, perfectly, ripe, sweet fruits that steals the show. Rich, full-bodied and concentrated, the decadent finish, with all its multiple layers sticks with you for at least sixty seconds! Drink from 2029-2055.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

## Reviews

*"With a complex nose of mint, tobacco leaf, roses, spice, crème de cassis, blackberry, cigar box and spice box, everything is off to a good start. On the palate, the wine is pure silk and velvet. Rich, full-bodied and concentrated, the decadently textured finish, with all its multiple layers of sweet fruits, spice and tobacco stay with you for close to 50 seconds. Comparing the 2016, 2018 and 2019 side by side is going to be an incredible experience over the next several decades. The wine combines 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc reaching 14.1% alcohol with a pH of 3.7. Picking took place September 16-October 8 with yields of 42 hectoliters per hectare. The Grand Vin was made from 50% of the harvest."*

- JL, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com)

*"The 2019 is a blend of 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc - almost identical to both 2017 and 2018. The wine will be aged for 18-19 months in 60% new French oak with the remainder in second fill barrels. The yields are roughly average at 42hl/ha, but Nicolas hopes that this will improve with their new planting program in the future. Deep ruby purple in the glass with creamy, polished black fruits on the nose. The palate shows more structure and is savoury, notes of tobacco and earthy come through together with pure blackcurrant. Spicy, toasty oak is well integrated thanks to the intensity of fruit at the core. Chewy and rich to the finish, which spicy and long."*

- Farr Vintners

*"The sample of 2019 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande sent to me last year was an absolute showstopper. The bouquet needs a few minutes to open up, delivering intense black fruit, crushed stone and incense with time in the glass. Yes, the nose does remind me of Latour! The medium-bodied palate is endowed with unerring symmetry and poise. This is a powerful, multi-dimensional Pichon-Lalande, extremely precise, very deep, and long. The 60% new oak is seamlessly integrated and feels just right. It reminds me of the 1996 in some ways, but with more finesse on the finish. Stunning. 14.12% alcohol (NM)"*

- NM, Vinous

*"The 2019 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande was picked 16 September to 8 October. It has a showstopping nose: intense black fruit laced with graphite and mint. (Whisper it...it reminds me of their First Growth next door neighbor.) The palate is underpinned by very refined tannins that cradle what may well be the purest fruit you will find in this vintage. Unbelievably precise all the way through to the finish, I admit staring at my glass trying to find fault with it. Unless winemaker Nicolas Glumineau gets distracted by the new Cure album and makes a catastrophic error during the rest of its élevage, which he is not prone to doing, you are not looking at a modern-day 1982 or 2016, but something even better and more profound. Tasted from three bottles with consistent notes. 2026 – 2065."*

- NM, Vinous

*"One of the most elegant Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande I can remember tasting. The 2019 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande is very clearly one of the wines of the year. Statuesque in its bearing, the 2019 possesses tremendous depth and intensity right out of the gate. Dark fruit, gravel, smoke, licorice and incense draw the taster in. The 2019 is like a great book. You don't want to put it down. Each taste reveals a new layer, a new shade of nuance. The 2019 is quite simply one of the most elegant renditions I have tasted recently. That said, it is also incredibly austere and in need of cellaring. Don't miss it. Tasted three times. Drinking window: 2034 – 2059"*

- AG, Vinous

*"The 2019 Pichon-Longueville Comtesse de Lalande evokes a feeling of real power and breadth, with tons of energy giving the wine drive that builds into the finish. Time in the glass brings out the aromatic intensity of the Cabernets. Dark fruit, menthol, rose petal, licorice and grilled herbs all flesh out over time. The 2019 Pichon Comtesse is a very serious wine that almost certainly has more to say than it is willing to express at this stage. Tasted two times.*

*General Manager and Winemaker Nicolas Glumineau describes 2019 as a year of drought, until rains arrived at the end of July and middle of August, which were very important for the maturation of the Cabernets in mid-October. Yields were 42 hectoliters per hectare, which is typical for the château. Glumineau added that the Merlots showed a wider range of quality, while the Cabernets were more homogeneous. In tasting, I found the two wines more differentiated stylistically, which has not often been the case."*

- AG, Vinous

## Reviews

*"Pure class, the 2019 Château Pichon-Longueville Comtesse De Lalande is another brilliant wine from director Nicolas Glumineau that checks in at the top of the vintage. A blend of 71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot, and 6% Cabernet Franc that was harvested from mid-September through October 8th. Brought up in roughly 60% new French oak, it hit 14.1% natural alcohol with a pH of 3.7. More elegant and poised from bottle than barrel, it offers a brilliant perfume of crème de cassis, lead pencil shavings, tobacco leaf, damp earth, and graphite. Deep, full-bodied, and pure perfection on the palate, it has this incredible marriage of Latour-like stature and regalness buffered by wonderful, sexy, seamless fruit, which no doubt comes from the higher Merlot content and makes Comtesse de Lalande so singular and unique. It builds slowly with time in the glass and has remarkable purity of fruit, ultra-fine tannins, perfect balance, and a finish that just begs you to pour another glass. It has a seductive, seamless profile that offers pleasure even today (although it needs lots of air to show at its best) yet needs 7-8 years of bottle age to hit the early stages of its prime drink window and will evolve for another 40-50 years if stored properly."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*"Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle lightening of the edges. Black cherry fruit with fine spice nuances, delicate liquorice and cassis, a hint of precious wood, inviting bouquet. Juicy, elegant, extract-sweet core, ripe, supporting tannins, fine nougat on the finish, highly elegant and endowed with great length, a silky Pauillac style, freshness and finesse are not stingy, a hint of fresh figs in the aftertaste."*

- Falstaff Magazine

*"71% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot and 6% Cabernet Franc. Deep ruby colour. The nose finds the capacity to be both seductive and fresh in equal measure. There is an interplay of damson, blackberry, and fresh plums, layered by subtle and savoury spice. The palate is creamy with dark fruit, silky with ripe tannins, yet deep and structured. The acidity is vibrant, matching the fleshy fruit at the core. Fruit is the focus, but there are notes of cedar and hedgerow to add savoury depth. The structure persists on the finish, this will need some time in bottle to reveal its full potential, but it should drink well for decades. An excellent showing."*

- Tom Parker MW

*"The nose is beautifully delicate, racy and offers a beautiful power in finesse/delicacy, a fine sensation of tension, a beautiful finesse of the grain, a complete side, complexity/a multi-layers side and a fine freshness. It reveals notes of bright Boysen berry, bright raspberry, small notes of crushed cassis associated with fine touches of small, crushed fruits as well as hints of chocolate, toasted, fine hints of lily/iris, violet, sugared mild tobacco, very discreet hints of vanilla. The palate is fruity, racy, mineral, well-balanced and offers a beautiful finesse of the frame/an acidulous frame, a beautiful finesse of the grain and a very fine straightness. On the palate this wine expresses notes of bright/juicy blackberry, bright/juicy cassis, small notes of bright/juicy raspberry associated with fine touches of crushed redcurrant, bright cherry as well as hints of toasted, lily/lilac, toasted, chocolate/tonka bean, fine hints of caramelization, camphor, discreet hints of toasted hazelnut, a discreet hints of salinity/iodine hint and an imperceptible hint of black tea. Tannins are beautifully built, elegant, fine, and coating. A wine of mastery, accuracy, and finesse. A construction reminiscent of a square of silk, we can see the complexity of the thousands of "little threads" that give a harmonious and delicate whole (despite its controlled power)."*

- Vert de Vin