

# Château Haut Bailly 2019

CSPC# 813883

750mlx6

13.7% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 4% Cabernet Franc
<b>Appellation</b>	Pessac-Léognan
<b>Classification</b>	Grand Cru Classé de Graves
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.haut-bailly.com/en/wines.html">https://www.haut-bailly.com/en/wines.html</a>
<b>General Info</b>	<p>For the past four centuries, Château Haut Bailly has overlooked 28 hectares of vines in a single block. These grow on soil consisting of sand and gravel from the Tertiary period with a fossil stone subsoil. Haut Bailly's reputation as one of the very finest wines of Bordeaux was established in the 19th century. Haut-Bailly was bought by the Sanders family in 1955 and was run by Jean Sanders until 1998 when Robert G. Wilmers, an American banker, purchased it. Robert G. Wilmers continues to emphasize quality in all aspects of production, combining a blend of tradition and modernity with respect for the environment. Château Haut-Bailly's unique terroir produces wines that are outstandingly reliable, and whose prestige is due to an inimitable style marked by finesse and elegance.</p> <p>Bob Wilmers passed away in December 2017 at age 83. The estate is now managed by Chris Wilmers the son of Bob Wilmers.</p> <p>Today, the estate is directed by Veronique Sanders, the fourth generation of her family associated with Haut-Bailly.</p>
<b>Winemaker</b>	Gabriel Vialard
<b>Vintage</b>	<p>Unprecedented weather and extreme seasons!</p> <p>Winter 2019 was short-lived. After a particularly cold January, February was exceptionally mild (28°C). The early budburst (15 days in advance) gave us fears of spring frosts, which were fortunately avoided thanks to the nighttime mobilization of our team. On five separate occasions, fires were lit to fight against this risk (March 27th &amp; 28th, April 13th, May 5th &amp; 6th).</p> <p>An unusual freshness in May slowed the growth of the plant and returned us to a traditional growing calendar.</p> <p>Spring ended with several successive heat waves from the end of May, followed by two intense periods in June (26th &amp; 27th) and July (22nd-25th).</p> <p>The early summer weather accelerated the vegetative development and the vine demonstrated once again its incredible resistance. Generous growth encouraged us to perform green harvests. At the end of July, a providential storm during a period of drought gave us 40mm of rain and allowed a quick and homogeneous veraison, along with the cooler temperatures of early August. Maturation developed in ideal weather conditions, with alternating warm and sunny days with cool nights.</p>
<b>Vineyards</b>	<p>The Haut-Bailly estate accounts for 33 hectares of the Médoc, of which 30 hectares are vineyard, largely in a single block on a gravel <i>croupe</i>. The soils are a mixture of sand and Tertiary gravel over <i>Faluns de Léognan</i>, a subsoil rich in sandstone and ancient fossilised shells. The vines themselves are mainly Cabernet Sauvignon (64%), which are planted on the upper parts of the <i>croupe</i> and slopes where the drainage is best, with 30% Merlot, which are planted on those plots where the soils are richer in clay. The remaining 6% is Cabernet Franc, and overall, the planting density is an admirable 10000 vines/ha.</p>
<b>Harvest</b>	<p>After a fine summer and a magnificent month of September, the harvest took place from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 10th in favorable conditions.</p> <p>A generous crop was handpicked by a high-spirited troop of international pickers. The sugar concentration of the grapes, their phenolic richness and a natural acidity are signs of a great vintage. Harvest: September 23rd to October 10th</p>
<b>Winemaking</b>	<p>The vinification took place at 24°C in order to preserve the perfect freshness and elegance despite the high degrees in alcohol. In small oak barriques (55% new) for 16 months and is bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.</p>



<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Charming Merlots and structured Cabernets. The wines are ripe, rich and aromatic. They offer balance generosity as well as precision. 2019 is a wine of style and depth, a wine of balance, power, and purity.
<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Haut Bailly is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. The wine of Chateau Haut Bailly is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes.
<b>Production</b>	5,000 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2029-2065
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>96+ 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>99 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022</p> <p><b>98-99 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2020</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 2020</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Jane Anson, Insidebordeaux.com - January 2022</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020</p> <p><b>94-96 points</b> - Farr Vintners - May 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>94-98 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2020</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - June 2020</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020</p> <p><b>98 points</b> - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - June 2020</p> <p><b>95-96 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2020</p> <p><b>19 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"The 2019 Haut-Bailly unwinds in the glass with complex aromas of dark berries, bay leaf, loamy soil, and cigar wrapper, framed by a discreet patina of new oak. Full-bodied, velvety, and elegantly muscular, it's powerful and concentrated, with lively acids and an abundance of ripe but youthfully assertive structuring tannin that will demand some patience. Drink Date 2029 – 2065. Haut-Bailly now boasts one of Bordeaux's grander new wineries, but the 2019 vintage at this address reminds us that the old facilities were more than capable of delivering excellence too! Winemaking here is rather gentle, with comparatively cool fermentation temperatures and a modest 50% new oak, yet the 2019s are rather structured, serious wines that will demand a bit of patience, reflecting a more classically proportioned, elegant style than the more flamboyant 2018. As usual, Cabernet Sauvignon represents slightly over half of the blend, including a block of ancient, more than 100-year-old vines in front of the chateau itself."</i></p> <p>- WK, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Deep garnet-purple colored, it leaps from the glass with vivacious notes of blackcurrant cordial, black raspberries, and plum preserves with a tantalizing undercurrent of candied violets, dark chocolate, menthol, and licorice plus a touch of Chinese five spice. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is achingly elegant, showing off perfumed black fruit layers with a firm frame of very fine-grained, silt-like tannins and seamless freshness, finishing with incredible persistence and fragrance. Just magic. Barrel Sample: 97-99."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Extremely aromatic, with incredible wet-earth, bark, stone, and graphite notes on the nose, then changing to violets, blackberries, and blackcurrants. Full-bodied, yet so linear and fine, with titanium tannins that go on so long. Builds and builds then just rolls around the palate through the endless finish. Real Bordeaux here. Exceptional. Best after 2029."</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"Such totally graceful perfumes to this, showing currants, dried flowers, and stones, as well as hints of forest fruit and subtle tar, asphalt, and smoke. Full-bodied, yet the texture is pristine with intense, polished, and fine-grained tannins. So long, flavorful, and ever so beautiful. The finish is never ending. This really is</i></p>

**Reviews** *something special.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*“This is a very fine wine, showing layers of the densest structure as well as stylish black fruits. It is possible to taste the balance that will emerge as the wine ages, bringing out the sumptuous fruits and soft tannins. The wine is sure to age for a considerable time.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“A floral bouquet on the nose, soft but deep with such clarity and such a beautiful vivid pink, red colour in the glass too. The texture here is striking, smooth and mouth filling with intensity but so well presented, precise, fine, and amazingly detailed. The word for 2019 is energy and this has it in abundance, it’s vibrant and alive in the mouth with such brightness. Mouthwatering acidity is set against a chalky texture, so you get a full mouthfeel without any heaviness. Great structure and balance. You could almost drink this now to enjoy the immediate enjoyment but a recent tasting of the 2009 suggests this has a very long life ahead. A wine you can fall in love with! Drinking window: 2024-2047.”*  
- GH, Decanter.com

*“Intense colour, with seductive black fruits on the attack. Quickly expands outwards in the mouth, so much depth with tiny pulses of electric flavour and grip. Feels very Haut-Bailly in its balance, energy, and lift, with a clear savoury edge. Harvest September 23 to October 10, with a yield of 49hl/ha after a year that was 2°C above average through every month of the growing season except May. 4% Petit Verdot completes the blend.”*  
- JA, Decanter.com

*“Captures so much of the spirit of Haut-Bailly - it is powerful, with a slow build of plump cassis and blackberry fruits, but at every point you feel a sense of restraint, with sculpted fine tannins that allow juice to run through the fruit. Harvest September 23 to October 10, 49hl/ha yield, 50% new oak.”*  
- JA, Inside Bordeaux

*“Incredibly rich, lush, powerful, full-bodied and concentrated, as well as poised, balanced, and harmonious and fresh, the wine opens with an array of flowers, tobacco leaf, currants, black plums, espresso, smoke and herbs. Vibrant, seductive, long, and complex, the wine is a beautiful expression of the vineyard with all of its complexities and nuances. It should drink a bit earlier than the 2015, 2016 and 2018. But it will still need time in the cellar. Drink from 2030-2060.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“Dark ruby in color, with a gorgeous bouquet of flowers, cigar box, tobacco, smoke, herbs, and ripe, sweet, fresh red fruits. Silky, sexy, and seductive, with a long, sensuous palate, feel and presence, this is a beautiful expression of the vineyard. It should drink a bit earlier than the 2015, 2016 and 2018. But it will still need time in the cellar... reaching 13.7 alcohol with a pH of 3.7. The Grand Vin was produced from 50% of the harvest.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“The yield is 49hl/ha in 2019, similar to the average. The wine will be aged for 16-18 months in 50% new French oak. Deep ruby colour, with notes of sweet violets, earthy bramble fruits and sappy oak. The palate is earthy and savoury in flavour but glossy in texture, with the mouthcoating and grippy tannins extremely refined. Black fruit builds in tandem with subtle and spicy oak through to a long, fine finish.”*  
- Farr Vintners

*“The 2019 Haut-Bailly, matured in 50% new oak and bottled in April 2021, has a stunning, classy, and sophisticated bouquet of blackberry, melted tar, Earl Grey and light mineral scents. This is extremely focused, almost pixelated. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins, but there is real backbone and structure to this wine. Deep, intense, classy, and classic in style, delivering an immense amount of sapidity on the enormously persistent finish. As I mentioned previously, this is a less flamboyant Haut-Bailly, but more intellectual. Drink 2024-2055.”*  
- NM, Vinous

## Reviews

*"The 2019 Haut-Bailly was picked 23 September to 10 October. After 10-15 minutes in the glass the wine gradually unfurls to reveal beautiful red berry fruit, crushed stone, wilted rose petals and faint hints of blueberry. The palate is quite brilliantly balanced, the tannins extremely fine and framing the slightly earthy black fruit laced with salt. Though Véronique Sanders suggests that it bears a semblance to the 2009 with more depth, I cannot see that verisimilitude. To me, it is a less flamboyant and more terroir expressive Haut-Bailly that has an effortless allure and a sense of sophistication. Wonderful. 2024 - 2055."*

- NM, Vinous

*"The 2019 Haut-Bailly is a huge, powerful wine. There is plenty of the richness of this warm vintage, but a ton of tannin too. In most warmer years, Haut-Bailly can be a real charmer upfront, but in 2019 it's all about somber dark fruit, tannin, and structure. A wine of breadth and power, Haut-Bailly will need many years in the cellar to truly blossom. It's unquestionably a big wine with a brilliant future. Bright aromatics lend freshness as the 2019 continues to open with air. Drink 2029-2059."*

- AG, Vinous

*"Elegance and sophistication are front and center in the 2019 Haut-Bailly. A wine of finesse and understatement, the 2019 reveals itself slowly in the glass. Graphite, crushed rocks, lavender, blackberry, and lavender are some of the nuances that develop over time, but more than anything else, the 2019 is all about focus, persistence, and simply exquisite overall balance. It is easily one of the highlights of the vintage."*

- AG, Vinous

*"A beautiful, elegant, and quintessential expression of this terroir, the deep ruby/purple-hued 2019 Château Haut-Bailly offers up a tight yet promising bouquet of ripe blackcurrants, darker cherries, iron, tobacco leaf, scorched earth, and cedar pencil. Possessing incredible minerality, medium to full body, ripe tannins, and a classy, aristocratic, regal style, it opens up nicely with air and will benefit from 5-7 years of bottle age and have a lengthy prime drinking plateau of 20-30 years. It's another pure class release from this great estate, which is run by the talented Véronique Sanders."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*"A stunning wine in the making, the 2019 Château Haut-Bailly sports a deep purple hue as well lots of smoky black and blue fruits, unsmoked tobacco, cedar pencil, violets, and gravelly earth. Showing the quintessential elegance and purity of this terroir, it's medium to full-bodied, has no hard edges, and delivers wonderful purity of fruit and a great, great finish. It reminds me of a slightly more elegant 2009 and is a beautiful, singular wine from this estate, which is being run brilliantly by Veronique Sanders. It will benefit from just short-term cellaring yet drink well for 40+ years. Barrel Sample: 96-98."*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*"Dark ruby garnet, violet reflections, subtle ocher edge brightening. Dark forest berry confit with a delicate floral underlay, nuances of blackberries and liquorice, fine notes of tobacco, a hint of orange zest, mineral touch. Full-bodied, very complex, delicately chocolaty, fleshy texture, ripe, supporting tannins, velvety and long-lasting style, sweet cherries in the aftertaste, mineral-salty, great length, reliable aging potential for decades."*

- Falstaff Magazine

*"The nose is elegant, fine and offers a beautiful power, delicacy, and complexity. It reveals notes of crushed cassis, crushed wild blackberry, small notes of violet, wild strawberry associated with small touches of small blue fruits, violet crushed plum, caramelization as well as very fine hints of camphor, tonka bean and grey pepper. The palate is fruity, well-balanced and offers an acidulous, complexity, tension as well as a finesse of the grain. On the palate this wine expresses notes of pulpy/juicy wild cassis, raspberry, small notes of small juicy violet plum associated with touches of toasted, small fleshy/crushed fruits, chocolate, caramelization as well as fine hints of racy minerality, sweet spices and nutmeg. Tannins are elegant, racy and well-built."*

- Vert de Vin

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