

Château La Louvière Blanc 2023

CSPC# 123957

6x750ml

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

100% Sauvignon Blanc.

Appellation

Pessac-Léognan

Classification

Bordeaux Blanc

Website

<https://eng.andrelurton.com/Our-Wines/Our-wines/Chateau-La-Louviere-Blanc>

Analysis

pH: 3.10 Total Acidity: 4.85 g/L

Sustainability

Thanks to its environmentally friendly viticulture, the chateau is recognized for its High Environmental Value (Level 3/3)

General Info

Château La Louvière has long been famous for its white wines. In fact, these already highly-prized by Canadian merchants in the 17th century! A century later, they were to be found on the finest tables in Russia. The very elegant white La Louvière is now among the finest dry white wines in the Graves and is a fine ambassador for the Pessac-Léognan appellation. Marked by the Sauvignon Blanc varietal character, but not overly so, it can age remarkably well.

The name of Chateau La Louviere suggests that the origins of the estate date back to the 13th century, when the provost of Leognan Guilhem de la Louviere would have given his name to the castle. After having shone in the hands of the Guilloche and Chartreux families, in 1791 the estate became the property of Jean-Baptiste Marheilac, a great merchant from Bordeaux. He asked François Lhote to build the superb castle which still stands out today as one of the most beautiful of Bordeaux. Thanks to the great attention paid by the Marheilac family, who remained the owners for more than two centuries, the estate's wines stand out as some of the greatest wines of the Pessac-Leognan appellation. Today, the chateau belongs to the Andre Lurton family, a great Bordeaux wine family.

2003 marked an interesting experiment when Chateau La Louviere became one of the first, well-known Bordeaux estates to bottle their wine using the Stelvin screw cap enclosure. The estate was once again modernized in 2008. Today, the estate is managed by Andre Lurton. This branch of the Lurton family owns several other Bordeaux chateaux including Chateau Couhins-Lurton and Chateau Dauzac in Margaux.

Chateau La Louviere has good neighbors. They are located in Cadaujac, which is not far from Chateau Haut Bailly and across the way from Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte. Even with their new wine making facilities and good terroir, the wines have not always been consistent.

Winemaker

Jean Marc Comte. Consultant is Valérie Lavigne.

Vintage

2023 was marked by a uniform start to vegetation: bud-break dates returned to normal, foliage developed rapidly and the bunches emerged beautifully. Heavy rainfall in the spring tarnished the start of the season somewhat, with mildew appearing in places. There was no hot summer in 2023, but relatively cool nights and warm but not excessively hot days in July and August created ideal ripening conditions for the grapes, which produced remarkable aromatic potential.

Vineyards

The 61.5-hectare vineyard of Chateau La Louviere is planted to 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot, although there are some Petit Verdot vines remaining in the vineyard. The Cabernet Franc has been completely removed. 13.5 hectares are devoted to white wine grape varieties which are planted to 85% Sauvignon Blanc and 15% Semillon, with a similar planting density and vine age as the red wine varieties.

The terroir is gravel with limestone deposits in the soil. On average, the vines are close to 25 years of age. The vines are planted to a density that ranges from 6,500 vines per hectare up to 8,500 vines per hectare. The higher levels of density are for the newer plantings.

Harvest

28 August - 08 September 2023. Hand-harvested in crates.

Maturation

Whole bunch pressing. Alcoholic fermentation after settling in barrels and half muid. Aged on lees with regular stirring of the lees. Ageing: 12 months in barrels (40% new). Aged in 15% terracotta amphorae.



Tasting Notes	<p>Château La Louvière has long been famous for its white wines. In fact, these already highly-prized by Canadian merchants in the 17th century ! A century later, they were to be found on the finest tables in Saint Petersburg. The very elegant white La Louvière is now among the finest dry white wines in the Graves, and is a fine ambassador for the Pessac-Léognan appellation. Marked by the Sauvignon Blanc varietal character, but not overly so, it can age remarkably well.</p> <p>Pale yellow colour with green highlights. The nose is particularly intense, with aromas of fresh white and yellow fruit (peach) and citrus. There are also floral nuances, mixed with light notes of brioche. Complex and elegant. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied with a generous, fat texture that lingers throughout. The acidity adds a welcome freshness, creating a perfect balance. The wine is both delicious and harmonious. Very long on the palate. This 2023 should be one of Château La Louvière's remarkable vintages.</p>
Serve with	All the qualities of this great white wine can be appreciated with "bouchées à la Reine" with sweetbreads, baked fish, or a cheese platter. The long aftertaste goes beautifully with lobster as well as sheep's cheese from the Pyrenees. Salmon puff pastry, Normandy-style scallops, sea bass in a Guérande salt crust. Will also go well with salads, fish, and white meats. Asparagus and sheep's cheese tart, pan-fried scallops, veal sweetbreads with morels.
Production	2,640 cases produced
Cellaring	Drink 2025-2038
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - May 2026</p> <p>91-93 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - May 2024</p> <p>94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - November 2025</p> <p>94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2024</p> <p>92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2025</p> <p>93 points - Panos Kakaviatos, Decanter.com - May 2024</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - April 2024</p> <p>93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2026</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2024</p> <p>92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2024</p> <p>92-94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - April 2024</p> <p>88-90 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2024</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2024</p> <p>87 points - Jean Marc Quarin - April 2024</p> <p>90 points - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2024</p>
