

# Château Malartic Lagraviere 2014

CSPC# 864619

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

<b>Grape Variety</b>	52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot.
<b>Appellation</b>	Pessac-Léognan
<b>Classification</b>	Grand Cru Classé de Graves in 1959
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.malartic-lagraviere.com/en/vintages/#malartic-rouge-2015">http://www.malartic-lagraviere.com/en/vintages/#malartic-rouge-2015</a>
<b>Sustainability</b>	Sustainable farming - High Value Environmental certification* *HVE, level 3 (the highest) since 2015. A unique reference of environmental quality, prioritizing biodiversity inside and all-around plots.)
<b>General Info</b>	<p>Chateau Malartic Lagraviere started out life with a shorter name. Originally, it was known as Domaine de Lagraviere. The Malartic family obtained the Bordeaux vineyard at the close of the eighteenth century. In the 1850's, the chateau changed their name to Malartic Lagraviere. The name change was to honor the family's famous son, Comte Anne-Joseph-Hippolyte Maures de Malartic, who was a well-known French colonial Governor and French Navy Admiral. In fact, this explains the reason for the boat on their logo.</p> <p>Chateau Malartic Lagraviere passed from the family of Maures de Malartic family to Arnaud Ricard. The Ricard family were quite well-known in the Graves region as they also owned Chateau de Fieuzal and Domaine de Chevalier . The Ricard family eventually sold the property in 1990 to the famous Champagne producer, Laurent-Perrier. In 1997, Chateau Malartic Lagraviere, became the property of Michele and Alfred-Alexandre Bonnie in 1997. Without prior experience in the wine world, the Bonnie family dove right in at Chateau Malartic Lagraviere, spending close to \$20,000,000 to modernize the estate.</p>
<b>Winemakers</b>	Michele and Alfred-Alexandre Bonnie. Michel Rolland consultant Oenologist.
<b>Vintage</b>	Spring 2014 was pleasant with fairly good, uniform flowering at Malartic. July was fine, but August, which was initially wet and hot, and then very cool, caused a significant threat of mildew and then outbreaks of Botrytis on the white grapes at the end of the month. Fortunately, on 27 August, a period of superb weather arrived that was to continue throughout the harvests. Decisions were fast and well-managed thanks to a reinforced team that worked hard throughout the growth cycle to compensate for these special conditions (meticulous removal of unwanted shoots and regular trimming; several rounds of leaf stripping; green harvests). Ripeness progressed exponentially, enabling us to harvest very concentrated grapes that produced powerful, aromatic musts, enlivened by very good levels of acidity. The red grape harvests ended on 21 October under sunny skies. The Merlot is dense, rounded and rich, with lots of volume. Very uniform, embodying a real Malartic style. The Cabernet is very clean, pure and long, with bright, almost sunny fruit, and a noticeable sweetness. The tannins present volume and flexibility. Remarkable! This vintage offers amazing precision and great quality, largely due to the superb Indian summer, and enhanced by our growing techniques and management of the terroir.
<b>Vineyards</b>	The 53-hectare vineyard of Chateau Malartic Lagraviere is planted to produce both red and white Bordeaux wine. 46 hectares are planted for red Bordeaux grapes with 45% Merlot , 45% Cabernet Sauvignon , 8% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot . The terroir for the red wine grape varieties is gravel and clay with limestone soils. Their best terroir is probably the parcel behind their cellars, with the really deep gravel soil that can be as deep as at 8 meters. All work in the vineyards is done using only self-sustaining, farming techniques.
<b>Harvest</b>	Merlots From 30 September to 10 October 2014 Cabernet-Sauvignon From 16 to 21 October 2014 Cabernet-Franc 8 October 2014 Petit-Verdot 9 October 2014



<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	To produce the red wine of Chateau Malartic Lagraviere, vinification takes place in a combination of 20 stainless steel vats and 10 oak tanks. The 30 different, conical shaped vats allow for parcel-by-parcel vinification. Malolactic fermentation takes place in barrel. Fermentation 30 days - 28 to 30° C. Aged in traditional oak barrels: 70% new oak for 18 months.
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Very nice finesse of mouth, firm tannins, character of terroir more full bodied because the wood is much less marked. A subtle search for fruit and finesse makes it a great success. It is part of the new era of this classified growth.
<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Malartic Lagraviere is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Young vintages can be decanted for 1-3 hours. This allows the wine to soften and open its perfume. The wine will also gently warm in the glass, releasing its aromatics. Older vintages might also need decanting, for both aerating and to remove the sediment. The red wine of Chateau Malartic Lagraviere 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>	9,167 cases made
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2019-2026
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>91 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2017</p> <p><b>91-94 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - June 2015</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate - March 2017</p> <p><b>91-93 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 2015</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2017</p> <p><b>93-94 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2015</p> <p><b>95 points/Cellar Selection</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - February 2018</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2017</p> <p><b>91-92 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - Tim Atkin MW, timatkin.com (score only) - April 2015</p> <p><b>91+ points</b> - Farr Vintner - March 2015</p> <p><b>86-90 points</b> - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2015</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - March 2018</p> <p><b>94 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2017</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW - November 2017</p> <p><b>90 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2017</p> <p><b>91 points</b> - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - March 2015</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - Vert de Vin - April 2019</p> <p><b>93 points</b> - Wilfred Wong, Wine.com - January 2017</p> <p><b>92 points</b> - The Tasting Panel - April 2015</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2017</p> <p><b>17 points</b> - Bettane &amp; Desseauve (score only) - April 2015</p> <p><b>18 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - June 2017</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Very solid, with a core of dark plum, blackberry and fig preserve notes held in check by tarry grip. Ample singed apple wood and cocoa elements form the frame. Give this time to meld fully. Best from 2019 through 2026."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Quite ripe, with a large core of succulent blackberry, raspberry, and black currant fruit, enlivened with a good brambly edge and followed by anise and tar on the finish. Score Range: 91-94."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2014 Malartic-Lagraviere had quite a high-toned, upfront bouquet with kirsch, crushed strawberry, iodine and iris scents that do not hold back. The palate is rounded on the entry with supple tannin, possesses slightly lower acidity than its peers, yet remains balanced. There is impressive depth to this Malartic-Lagraviere with a subtle white pepper/sage note towards the finish. Though it will be overshadowed by the 2015, this is a well-crafted Pessac-Léognan with the chutzpah that it showed in barrel. (NM)"</i> - NM, Wine Advocate</p>

## Reviews

*"The Château Malartic-Lagravière 2014 is a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, representing just 42% of the crop. Yields came in at 42 hectoliters per hectare and the wine underwent a 28 cuvaison. Matured in 70% new oak, it has quite a rich bouquet with blackberry and iodine scents, well defined and turning quite floral with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with bold, ripe tannins, good depth of fruit with tarry, structured finish. It is a bold Malartic with a bit of chutzpah, though I suspect that it will mellow and attain more finesse with a few years in bottle."*

- NM, Wine Advocate

*"So perfumed with a freshness and beauty that is amazing. Blackberries, black cherries, and violets. Full-bodied yet so polished and velvety. Gorgeous finish. A beauty. Best ever in bottle from here?"*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"This already shows beautiful aromas of blackberries, wet earth, stones and spices. Full-bodied yet polished and refined with a lovely fine tannin texture. Shows wonderful finesse."*

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

*"Tight tannins mask the ripe fruit in a wine that is set for long-term aging, so there is a dry core that dominates at the moment. But not for long: the bold black fruits are insistent and are going to be delicious. This is a structured wine that will be ready in 2026."*

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*"Tasted blind. Very dark blackish crimson. Rich, buttery nose. Very broad and smooth on the nose but still pretty dry tannins. Wait! But this tastes like one of the more flattering wines of this appellation. Drink 2025-2040."*

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*"Clear breeding and ambition. Damson, pencil lead and wet stone aroma. Full extraction, more than most but without losing vibrancy and grip. An excellent 2014 -- the fruit floats above the tannins, one to wait for. 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot. "*

- JA, Decanter.com

*"With a round, silky, texture, the wine shows plenty of smoke, licorice, dark chocolate, espresso bean and ripe, juicy, plums. There is depth of flavor and fruit in the finish that carries through."*

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"Plush, polished, and lush with richness, concentration and a silky, round, fruit-filled finish. 13.5% alcohol."*

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"This Pessac Leognan property has been making excellent wines in recent years under the management of owner Jean-Jacques Bonnie whose family purchased the property in 1997. The vineyard is planted with equal proportions of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot with 8% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Deep purple colour. Dark berry fruits with an overlay of high toast wood. The palate is rich with blackcurrant fruit ventral to the palate which is given complexity from creamy vanilla oak. Nicely balanced and poised on a clean, long finish. Well made."*

- Farr Vintners

*"Red fruits black fruits the nose is fresh the start of the palate light. Fuller richer in the middle the fruit feels ripe the tannins fine and although fresher at the back the finish has depth and sweetness. 2026-40."*

- Derek Smedley MW

**Reviews**

*“The 2014 Malartic-Lagravière has a crisp and focused bouquet with precise blackberry and briary scents, a lovely undercurrent of mineralité. The palate is beautifully balanced on the entry with rounded, quite concentrated black fruit. There is a lot of extraction here and I fear that they may have found a touch of under-ripe tannin towards the finish, which is a shame because the nose is so damn gorgeous! Tasted blind at the annual Southwold tasting. 2020 – 2040.”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2014 Malartic-Lagravière is a gorgeous wine, but it is also flamboyant and exotic, especially in its flavor profile. Super-ripe red cherry and plum make a strong first impression. Sweet floral and spice notes, along with ripe, silky tannins, add to the wine's sensuality. A rich, powerful wine with soft contours and striking depth, the 2014 is a real beauty. It will be even more compelling once the new oak tannins soften a bit further.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“A terrific success in the vintage, the 2014 Chateau Malartic-Lagraviere is a blend of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot that was brought up in 70% new oak. Hitting 13.5% natural alcohol, it offers a vibrant ruby/purple color as well as vibrant aromatics of cherries, mulberries, red plums, exotic flowers, and lead pencil shavings. Medium-bodied and beautifully polished and elegant, with solid acidity, it's a juicy, vibrant, fresh 2014 that's going to drink nicely for 15-20 years.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

*“The nose is fruity, concentrated and powerful. It reveals notes of blackberry, black cherry and plum combined with slight notes of Zan, a few slight oaky notes as well as fine notes of Ceylon tea. The palate is fruity, mineral, elegant, relatively fat and offers a small concentration, minerality and fine notes of salinity. In the mouth this wine expresses notes of blackberry, black cherry, plum and a hint of fresh cherry combined with slight notes of red berries, licorice, Ceylon tea as well as a few slight notes of toasted oak.”*

- Vert de Vin

*“An ultra-rich wine, the 2014 Château Malartic Lagravière shows off the beautiful black ripeness of the vintage. Long and lasting, this wine delivers an almost exotic combination of elements—blackberries, savory herbs, and chalk. Simply masterful, this is one of the winery's best efforts to date.”*

- WW, Wine.com

*“The kosher version from a Grand Cru classe chateau; deep ruby color; silky and elegant with ripe, tangy style; balanced and stylish; long and rich.”*

- The tasting Panel

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