

## Fugue de Nénin 2012

CSPC# 796084

750mlx12

14.57% alc./vol.

### Grape Variety

82% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc

### Appellation

Pomerol

### Website

[http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/nenin-chateau\\_nenin\\_vins.html](http://www.domaines-delon.com/en/nenin-chateau_nenin_vins.html)

### General Info

Chateau Nénin has been owned by the Delon family (owners of the Second Growth Chateau Leoville Las Cases) since 1840 and lies in Pomerol, just outside the village of Catusseau on the south-western slopes of the highest plateau. The chateau sits in a 14-acre park which is rather unusual in Pomerol as the wine estates there tend to be made up of a patchwork of smaller properties. The oenologist at the chateau is Jacques Boiseenot who oversees wine making at no less than four out of the five Bordeaux First Growths. Nénin is considered to be a top Pomerol and has long been a favourite of the British Royal Family.

Fugue de Nénin was created and first sold in 1997. The wines are smooth and silky and can be enjoyed earlier than those of the Grand Vin.

### Vintage

The vintage 2012 was characterised by a slow, late growth cycle due to a very cool and wet spring. The budburst was spread out over time and created a variation in the stages of development that was to be partially evened out by the dry, sunny period that began in mid-July. The colour change and ripening occurred in ideal weather conditions that continued through to harvest-time. The grapes remained perfectly healthy despite rainy spells during picking.

### Vineyards

Fugue comes from sandy-clay soils found in the eastern part of the Château's vineyards, as well as from the young vines planted on the great plateau terroirs. The estate has 30 hectares of vines with 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Franc, which are found on soils comprising several areas where gravel dominates, combined with clay.

### Harvest

From 21st September to 10th October 2012

### Maturation

Malolactic fermentation is in vat, in a dedicated room as mentioned above, before tasting, blending and transfer into oak during the winter months after harvest. Aged for 18 months in French oak barrels.

### Tasting Notes

This second wine is a typical example of the charm of Pomerol. Fugue is a reference to music; it means a repetition of the main theme. This name makes sense when you taste the wine - Fugue complements the tonalities of its older sibling extremely well, while providing its own attractive and entertaining rendition. The second wine of the estate, this bottle is made to be enjoyed more readily than its older sibling. Silky and smooth merlot from younger vines on the estate, and from an outstanding vintage, it balances juicy fruit with dark tannins.

### Serve with

Enjoy with poultry or veal roast - Will do well with any red meats grilled, cheese...

### Cellaring

Drink 2016-2021.

### Scores/Awards

**88 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2015

**89-91 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013

**86 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #227 - October 2016

**91 points** - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #227 - April 24, 2013

**88-90 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 5, 2013

**88 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 1, 2015

**87-89 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 9, 2013

**16 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com (score only)

**87 points** - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2013

**84 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 26, 2013

**92 points** - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only)

**87 points** - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - April 7, 2013

**16 points** - Gault & Millau - June 2010 (score only)



**Scores/Awards** **15 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only)

**15.5 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only)

**1 star** - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2016

**Reviews** *"Polished and direct, with raspberry and plum sauce flavors, lined with black licorice accents. Cocoa powder notes frame the finish. Drink now. 6,000 cases made."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

*"The veneer of toast still needs to be absorbed, with the core of plum and blueberry fruit sitting in reserve. Delivers a polished feel through the spice-tinged finish. A bit more backward than most at this stage. Score range: 88-91"*

- JM, Wine Spectator

*"Tasted blind at the Southwold Bordeaux tasting. The 2012 Fugue de Nénin lacks complexity on the nose, a touch of balsamic here tincturing the black fruit, but it seems to miss some focus. The palate is medium-bodied with dusty black fruit, moderate acidity, a little smudged, but there is an appealing roundness to its texture. It needs more freshness and substance though. Not bad for a second wine, but it does miss a bit of pizzazz. Tasted January 2016."*

- NM, Wine Advocate

*"The second wine, the 2012 Fugue de Nénin, is a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc that hit 14.5% natural alcohol. It exhibits lots of plum, mocha and berry fruit, a medium-bodied, lush, silky texture and a hedonistic, fruit-driven style that is ideal for a second wine. These may turn out to be the finest Pomerols Jean-Hubert Delon and his team have made to date as the 2012s are better than either the 2009s or 2010s."*

- RP, Wine Advocate

*"The Fugue de Nénin, a blend of 82% Merlot and 18% Cabernet Franc, has a certain brightness on the nose with cassis and violet scents, almost like a Margaux. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp, rather chalky tannins and a slightly abrupt, punchy finish with hints of dark chocolate on the aftertaste. Fine. Tasted April 2013."*

- NM, Wine Journal

*"The second wine of Château Nénin wears its high alcohol easily. It is balanced, showing its dark tannins and juicy Merlot fruitiness in equal measure. It's by no means ready to drink, so age at least until 2018."*

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*"87–89. Barrel sample. This is a lovely ripe, fruity Merlot with brisk acidity and a lush, smoky character. It's open and generous, but a well-balanced wine."*

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*"When to drink: 2015 to 2023. Very deep crimson. Very rich, voluptuous nose. Nice freshness and precision on the palate. Very luscious. A lot more successful than many grown-up Pomerol grands vins. Really zesty and plush and lovely."*

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*"Bright, sweet and fleshy. Great Merlot expression. Excellent for a 2nd wine."*

- JL, Decanter.com

*"Chocolate, cocoa and black raspberry jam notes with just a hint of oak open to a light plummy wine in an open style. 84-86 Pts"*

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*"This plush, plummy red is round and supple with good mid palate weight. It has 14.5% alcohol with generosity and good depth. Merlot was very ripe and here it is composed of 82%. New manager at Nénin, Mariette Veyssiere, is the daughter of François Veissière, ex-cellar master at Château Petrus. Tasted in: Bordeaux, France. Maturity: Young."*

- JCL, asianpalate.com

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