

Château Gazin 2016

CSPC# 753462 750mlx12 14.5% alc./vol.
CSPC# 848124 750mlx6 14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety 87% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc.
Appellation Pomerol
Classification Bordeaux AOC (*Appellation d'origine contrôlée*)
Website <http://www.gazin.com/en/>

General Info The Pomerol vineyard developed from the 12th century up to the French Revolution of 1789 around the Commanderie of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, Rhodes and Malta. The present day, Château Gazin, which was once a village in the 18th century, is located on the site of the hospital built by the Knights to host the pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostella.

The logo for Chateau Gazin was inspired by an ancient connection to Knights of the Templars. Not only is the logo for Chateau Gazin old, so is the property. It dates all the way back to 1772 when the Pomerol vineyards were purchased by Antoine Feuilhade. Over the years, Chateau Gazin was sold and resold to numerous owners before it was bought by the current owners, the Bailliencourt family.

The estate's Bordeaux wine vineyards are large for the Pomerol appellation. They are 64.2 acres. The vineyards are in one single parcel, which is also unusual for Pomerol. The terroir is clay with gravel. Gazin is situated on the Pomerol plateau. Chateau Gazin has good neighbors. They share borders with Petrus and L'Evangile! In fact, in 1969, Chateau Gazin sold 12.5 acres to Petrus. While the sale helped the cash starved property, the loss of those vines reduced the quality of Chateau Gazin. Further exacerbating the loss of quality was when the estate switched to machine harvesting in 1979, coupled with an increase in yields. Both practices have been discontinued today.

Winemaker Michel Obert

Vintage 2016 is undoubtedly one of the best vintages of the last years, in line with 2009 and 2010. The summer brought to the vines their quotas of sun and rain, especially 20mm of rain, on September 13, which allowed to perfect the maturity of the grapes.

Vineyards The terroir at Château Gazin consists of Gunzian gravel on the surface and a subsoil of blue and green clay with iron oxides (iron residues). As is characteristic of great terroirs, these clays (smectites) ensure that the vines have a reasonably stable supply of water. Château GAZIN's terroir essentially consists of the clay-gravel subsoil of the Pomerol plateau. The vineyard is planted with 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Cabernet Franc. The average age of the vines is 35 years. The vines are planted with a density of 5,500 to 7,000 per hectare.

Harvest The harvest was made in very good weather, spread over three weeks, from September 22 to October 17. Our Merlots were picked between September 22nd and October 10th with many stops to wait for the optimal maturity of each piece of vines. The Cabernets Francs and Sauvignon were harvested on October 17th.

Vinification/ Maturation This vintage produced 85,000 bottles of great wine. It consists of 87% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. Its alcoholic degree is 14%. Aging 18 months, with malolactic fermentation in new barrels for 45% of the great wine and in vats for 55%, then in barrels of a wine for this last batch, brought a bottling, in June 2018, without collage with egg whites.

Tasting Notes 2016 is in the same style as 2015, but more powerful and fleshy, and already very silky in the mouth thanks to the maturity of its tannins. The wine offers a nice freshness, a round and ample attack with a lot of length. The nose always in this early youth of the wine is fruity (notes of red and black fruits: cherry and blackcurrant). Like all Pomerols, this wine will evolve towards notes of undergrowth, leather, truffle after a few years of aging in your cellar, which will bring all its complexity and finesse. To wait preferably 8/10 years. But consumable today after a little rest in your storeroom thanks to the finesse of its merlots and the freshness of its cabernets.



Serve with	<p>Chateau Gazin is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift.</p> <p>Chateau Gazin is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Gazin is also good with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta.</p>
Production	7,083 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2045
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019</p> <p>91-94 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p>95 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018</p> <p>94-96 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017</p> <p>95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2019</p> <p>94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2017</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - May 2018</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017</p> <p>94 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017</p> <p>95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2018</p> <p>95 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017</p> <p>94 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2017</p> <p>16.5 points - Farr Vintner - February 2017</p> <p>87-90 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2017</p> <p>94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>89-92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2017</p> <p>91+ points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - November 2017</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"This is fresh in feel despite some frankly ripe cherry compote and plum pâte de fruit notes, with light floral and tea nuances imparting lift. Silky overall, with some sneaky grip at the very end adding length. Offers lovely, seductive fruit. Drink now through 2029. 7,083 cases made."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Ripe and engaging, with a pretty display of cherry, raspberry and blueberry fruit flavors that stay fresh, carried by silky structure through the inviting finish. Not super-dense, but really lovely fruit. Score range: 91-94"</i></p> <p>- JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2016 Gazin features a beautifully perfumed nose of violets, Ceylon tea, cigar box, sandalwood and fallen leaves over a core of plum preserves, kirsch and blackberry preserves plus a waft of aniseed. Medium-bodied and elegant, with compelling restraint, it has a seductively plush texture, finishing with bags of poise, perfume and persistence."</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Gazin is a blend of 87% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Cabernet Franc this year, picked from 22 September with respect to the Merlot and from around 7 or 8 October for the Cabernet Franc. Now this has quite a powerful bouquet for Gazin, more heightened fruit compared to recent vintages with blackberry, briary and pressed flower aromas that are well defined (although my sample demanded two or three minutes to really find its voice). The palate is medium-bodied with a gently grip on the entry. I adore the tannic structure to this Gazin, equidistant between masculine and feminine, a backbone that will ensure this will age over many years. There is abundant, lightly spiced black fruit with a touch of cracked black pepper and clove towards the finish. The 50% new oak will add a little muscle onto the finish, thereupon you will have a really marvelous Gazin that will give three years of drinking pleasure, possibly more."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"This sophisticated Pomerol slowly creeps up on you, then suddenly you're in the deep end. The complex and delicate, floral and mangosteen aromas are married to a great tannin structure and nothing about this wine is a jot exaggerated. Long, mineral and spice finish with a weightless quality. Drink or hold."</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p>

- Reviews** *“Tight and silky with plum, blackberry and blueberry character. Medium-to full-bodied, firm and silky. Very linear and bright. A pretty follow-up to the stupendous 2015.”*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “Healthy deep crimson. Very focused even if without great weight or intensity. Some polish and sophistication. An early developer but very well made.”*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “87% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc. Very deep crimson. Sappy, energetic nose. Very smooth tannins and a distinctly dry tea-leaf finish. Not in the fleshy spectrum of Pomerol. Quite astringent at this stage, but with good length.”*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “Dark crimson. Rich, shiny, blackberry aromas. Sinew and a dry but not drying finish. A little austere and lacking juice but creditable. Correct.”*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “Classic, almost savoury fruits here, among the most left bank in style of all the Pomerols with cassis and black pepper spice. It's a wine that steals up on you - I tasted it several times and became increasingly impressed by the construction and the measured delivery of excellence. A full 13% of Cabernets here, split between 5% Cabernet Franc and 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, the highest proportion of the latter for many years. Drinking Window 2027 – 2045”*
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Just a beauty with its layers of concentrated, ripe, sweet, silky, fruits, freshness, earth, truffle and mocha. The wine has a depth of flavor, richness and the structure to age.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Flowers, plum liqueur and cherry blossoms reach your nose with little effort. There are sweet, ripe, sensuous fruits with hints of black licorice, silky yet dusty and powerful tannins and a long, sleek finish. The wine is made from a blend of 87% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. The wine 14.25% alcohol with a pH of 3.69 and is aging in 45% new, French oak barrels. The Merlot was harvested September 22 to October 10 and the Cabernets were picked October 17. This was the longest harvest period and the latest vintage in the history of Gazin.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “This doesn't quite hit the same heights as the 2015, but it's still a very stylish Pomerol, with plenty of zip, perfume and backbone from the Cabernets Sauvignon and Franc. The tannins are a little firm but should soften in bottle. 2024-34”*
- TA, timatkin.com
- “This property is wonderfully situated, right next door to Petrus on the Pomerol plateau. The vineyard is planted with 92% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc. Classic traditional Pomerols are produced here. 87% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, and 8% Cabernet Sauvignon in 2016, this is surprisingly deep in colour, with dark chocolate, damson and blackcurrant on the nose. The palate is intense with cassis and velveteen tannins providing supple structure to the fruit. With lifting crisp acidity, the finish has a floral edge that brings harmony to this powerful, age worthy wine.”*
- Farr Vintners
- “Sweet ripe fruit the nose has depth the palate rich fruit sweet generous and supple. Ripe black plum in the middle supported by fine tannins yet there is underlying freshness firm at the back the finish is fragrant but slightly austere. 2025-37”*
- Derek Smedley MW

Reviews *“The 2016 Gazin has a pure bouquet of luscious blackberry, black truffle and light smoky aromas that gain vigor with aeration. There is an unerring sense of control here, as if keeping something back for later. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine tannin, a silky-smooth texture and beguiling, graphite-tinged black fruit toward the refined, persistent finish. Flecks of clove linger on the finish. Classic Gazin. Tasted twice with consistent notes.”*

- NM, Vinous

“The 2016 Gazin has developed into a super-refined wine. Silky tannins and floral aromatics add to an impression of total finesse. Blood orange, sweet red/purplish berry fruit, rose petal and mint are all finely knit in this gracious, subtle Pomerol. More importantly, the 2016 has grown into an absolutely striking wine that is even more expressive and complete than it was from barrel. Drink 2021-2036.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2016 Gazin is bold and powerful, yet also retains striking freshness and energy throughout. Sweet red plum, blood orange, wildflowers and mint are some of the many notes that are delineated in this super-classy, refined Pomerol. All the elements come together effortlessly in the glass. The 2016 is not a big Pomerol; rather, it is a wine that impresses with its nuanced expression of the vintage. Hints of smoke, tobacco and grilled herbs add closing shades of complexity. Tasted two times.”

- AG, Vinous

“The 2016 Château Gazin is outstanding, but it’s firm, straight, and closed, and would certainly be better with more flesh and opulence. Vivid ruby/purple-colored, with notes of cassis and black raspberries as well as spring flowers, it hits the palate with medium-bodied richness, firm tannins, terrific purity, and a clean finish. The blend is 87% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 8% Cabernet Franc. It’s going to benefit from 2-4 years of bottle age and keep for 15+.”

- Jeb Dunnuck
