

Manoir de Gay 2012

CSPC# 763524

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

100% Merlot

Appellation

Pomerol

Classification

Bordeaux AOC (*Appellation d'origine contrôlée*)

Website

<http://www.vignoblespereverge.com/en/vin/chateau-le-gay-pomerol/>

General Info

Located in the vicinity of Château Pétrus, this small estate shares history with the property across the road, Château Lafleur. Both part of the property Le Manoir de Gay in the mid 18th century, it was purchased by the Greloud family and divided among the sons into two properties, the Domain de Lafleur section eventually inherited by André Robin who imprinted on Lafleur his personal motto, "*Qualité passe quantité*" (French: *Quality surpasses quantity*).

In 1946 the sisters Marie and Thérèse Robin inherited both Lafleur and Le Gay. The sisters were notoriously reclusive and shunned the spotlights for almost 70 years. They were content to allow Château Pétrus reap all the glory for the appellation and so Le Gay remained in the shadow of its prestigious neighbour until Catherine Péré-Vergé discovered it. La Fleur is owned by the Robin sisters niece and nephew, Sylvie and Jacques Guinaudeau, who sold Le Gay to Catherine Péré-Vergé in order to concentrate on La Fleur.

Since 2002, when Catherine Péré-Vergé bought the château, the quality of its wines has risen and Le Gay is now getting the recognition it deserves. Le Gay neighbours Château Pétrus and *Vieux Château Certan*. Le Gay shares some of its history with *Château La Fleur* across the road. In the 1700s both Le Gay and La Fleur were part of the larger property Le Manoir de Gay. In the mid 18th century Le Manoir de Gay was purchased by the Greloud family and divided between the sons.

Manoir de Gay is the second wine of Château Le Gay.

Catherine Péré-Vergé comes from the family who own Cristal d'Arques, a leading European glass and crystal manufacturer. Catherine left the family firm in the 60s and also owns *Châteaux Montviel, La Gravière, La Violette* and *Bodedga Monteviejo* in Argentina. Under her care Château Le Gay has been completely renovated. The chai is located next to the neo-classical pavilion where tastings are held and blends traditional and modern elements in a striking way. The most notable touch are the squat wooden fermentation tanks, each capable of holding 2,377 gallons which were fashioned by Seguin Moreau et Cie, one of the world's best cooperages.

Catherine Péré-Vergé passed away in April 2013 at age 74. Her son Henri Parent is expected to take over the Vignobles Péré Vergé estates.

Vintage

2012 was a challenging vintage in Bordeaux. But many winemakers in Pomerol, the appellation located within Bordeaux's Right Bank, were able to produce wines of depth, complexity, and character.

Like the rest of Bordeaux, Pomerol experienced chaotic weather in 2012. The spring was unpredictable and the summer brought heat and drought. Fortunately, the soils of Pomerol were able to hold on to moisture — and most producers were able to harvest their grapes just before rain showers hit in late September and early October. So the yields were naturally low. And the grapes produced wines of beautiful concentration and complexity.

Vineyards

Manoir de Gay is produced from vines planted in 2004 & 2005.

Harvest

Merlot harvested between 8th and 11th October. The harvest is manual with double sorting. The wine is made in oak vats in facilities rebuilt in 2003. Transfers are by gravity or pumping to avoid excessive handling. Malolactic fermentation and aging in oak barrels are conducted.

Maturation

Manoir de Gay : is vinified in wooden vats, in 2014, small cement vats for parcel selections will be used for the young vines. It is aged in oak casks for 18-20 months. Le Gay is a Pomerol property on the rise.



Tasting Notes The wine is pure Merlot from the younger vines in the field. Made with the same means and the same jurisdiction as “Castle Gay”, the critically acclaimed wine, the second is particularly attractive. Elegant and generous Pomerol, marked by a great fruity flavor, it is an interesting price / quality ratio.

Serve with Foie gras, seared duck with orange, turkey, tournedos Rossini with porcini mushrooms,

Cellaring Drink 2015-2027

Scores/Awards **90-93 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013
88 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #218 - April 2015
88-89 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2013 (score only)
92 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only)
87-89 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 26, 2013
15.5 points - Gault & Millau (score only)

Reviews *“Features a dark fruit profile, with black currant, steeped blackberry and black cherry notes wound together and lined with Lapsang Souchong tea and singed anise accents. A very solid second wine in '12. Score range: 90-93”*
- JM, Wine Spectator

“The second wine of the tiny estate of Le Gay, the 2012 Manoir de Gay is excellent – meaty, with almost primordial forest notes, black cherry and blackcurrant fruit, and a nice, plump density. It is surprisingly intense for a second wine. It has no hard edges and is best drunk over the next 10-12 years.”
- RP, Wine Advocate

“Produced from 100% Merlot, this black raspberry-dominated wine has a medium body, soft textures and a forward personality. 87-89 Pts”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
