

Château Angélu 2000

CSPC# 813873

750mlx6

14.9% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

Saint Emilion

Classification

Premier Grand Cru Classé "A"

Website

<https://www.angelus.com>

General Info

Michel de Boüard, historian, chartist and rector of the Academy of Caen explored the origins of his family. The earliest reference he found to his family tree was with Georges Boüard, born in 1544, a Bourgeois and Jurat of the city of Bordeaux.

At the end of the 18th century in 1782, Jean de Boüard de Laforest, a King's bodyguard, settled in Saint-Emilion. His daughter, Catherine-Sophie known as Sophie de Boüard de Laforest, married Charles Souffrain de Lavergne in 1795 and set up home on the Mazerat estate, which belonged to her husband.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Maurice de Boüard de Laforest inherited the estate. He extended it, adding in particular a 3-hectare (7½-acre) enclosure named Angélu in 1920. He left it to his sons in 1945.

Jacques and Christian de Boüard de Laforest continued their father's work and that of previous generations. They ran the estate until 1985, when Hubert de Boüard de Laforest took over and was joined in 1987 by Jean-Bernard Grenié, then by Stéphanie de Boüard-Rivoal in 2012 and by Thierry Grenié de Boüard in 2016.

Less than a kilometre from the famous Saint-Emilion bell tower, situated on the much-vaunted south-facing "foot of the hill", Angélu has been the life work of eight generations of the Boüard de Laforest family.

Hubert de Boüard de Laforest is the winemaker

Winemaker

Stéphanie de Boüard-Rivoal

Organic Status

For over 15 years now, Château Angélu has endeavoured to protect its magnificent eco-system, limit its sprays, and establish an approach to ensure that a preserved natural environment is passed on to future generations. All of this backed up by scientific reasoning and technical follow-up. Three years ago, Château Bellevue, a Saint-Emilion Grand Cru Classé adjacent to Angélu and jointly owned by the de Boüard de Laforest family began conversion to organic status.

Today, Stéphanie de Boüard-Rivoal and Thierry Grenié de Boüard, the current owners of the estate, have begun the process of organic conversion for Château Angélu. Press release 12th March 2018.

Vintage

During the growing season, there was low rainfall with the exception of April (130mm/5.1 inches). August and September rainfall was very low (18mm/0.7 inch and 38mm/1.5 inches respectively). On the other hand, temperatures were not excessively high over these 2 months, making the conditions very favourable for good ripening of the grapes. July, August and September were ideal in temperature with little rain, enabling an even change of colour, and thanks to earlier crop thinning, high quality homogeneously ripe grapes at the moment of picking.

Vineyards

The vineyard at Angélu resides in a natural amphitheater on a south-facing slope of Saint-Emilion and at its foot, where the summer temperatures are concentrated and where growth starts earlier. The soil is naturally drained by the slope. A good distribution of limestone and clay (between 8 and 20%) provides a regular supply of water and minerals. The vines' rootstocks are ideally suited to this "terroir" and the vine varieties are distributed according to the soil types: Merlot on the hill, where there is more clay and Cabernet Franc on the sandy clay-limestone soils at the foot of the hill. 27 hectares (67 acres). 6,500 to 8,500 vines per hectare. Grape composition is 53% Merlot, 46% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot. Average age of the vines is 38 years

Harvest

Harvest: September 14-27



Vinification/ Maturation	Fermentation In stainless steel, concrete and oak vats Transfer to barrels Immediately after running the wine off the skins Ageing 18 to 22 months in new barrels and foudres
Tasting Notes	The dazzlingly fruity, creamy balanced Merlot were blended with the slightly generously-ripe Cabernet Franc. The wines have a purplish black robe and display aromas of blackberry, plum and blackcurrant as well as delicate hints of smoke and liquorice. They fill the mouth, are amazingly concentrated and have a magnificent tannic structure. The balance between acidity and lush richness produces a strong impression of freshness. These wines will keep for a very long time indeed.
Serve with	Chateau Angelus is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Angelus is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes. Chateau Angelus is also good when matched with Asian dishes, rich fish courses like tuna, mushrooms and pasta.
Production	667 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2035-2045
Scores/Awards	<p>96 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2016</p> <p>97 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003</p> <p>Review Only - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001</p> <p>99 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #220 - August 2015</p> <p>97 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010</p> <p>96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003</p> <p>93-96 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002</p> <p>96-86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 2001</p> <p>93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - October 2011</p> <p>95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2012</p> <p>17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2011</p> <p>18 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - March 2010</p> <p>18.5+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - May 2005</p> <p>18.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - January 2005</p> <p>98 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2019</p> <p>100 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2017</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - July 2013</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - August 2008</p> <p>97 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2007</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"This shows some extraction and is very solidly built, as the core plum, black currant and fig paste flavors have flesh and density that unfurl slowly in the glass, but there's energy and freshness to match, thanks to mouthwatering ganache and licorice root notes and brambly tannins. A strong roasted apple wood element gives the finish range and length. A bit of a chest-thumper, but "it ain't bragging if it's true."--Blind 2000 Bordeaux retrospective (December 2015). Drink now through 2030. 667 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Out of this world. Incredible aromas of crushed blackberries and cherries, with wet earth, mineral and mint. Full-bodied, with fantastically refined, silky tannins and a long, long finish. Terrific. Greatest Angelus I have ever tasted. Best after 2010. 7,080 cases made."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Fabulous aromas of ripe fruit--raspberry, cherry and blackberry. Full-bodied, with super velvety tannins and a long, vanilla, fruity aftertaste. Almost classic. Score range: 92-94"</i> - JS, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Approaching perfection, this wine is inky, bluish/purple-colored to the rim, offering up notes of incense, blueberry and blackberry liqueur, licorice, graphite and spring flowers. A touch of roasted espresso bean is also present. The wine has great concentration, a magnificent, full-bodied mouthfeel, stunning purity, and well-integrated acidity, tannin, alcohol and wood. This beauty seems to be in mid-adolescence with at least 25-30 years of life ahead."</i> - RP, Wine Advocate</p>

Reviews

“What can you say about Hubert de Bouard and Angelus? Each year they seem to turn out one great wine after another, and the 2000 showed its merit in two different tastings. A wine of great intensity, bluish/black, with a big, sweet kiss of graphite, crushed rocks, blueberry, spring floral garden and blackberry liqueur, unctuously textured as well as pure, dense, and stunningly rich, this full-bodied wine can be drunk now or cellared for another 25-30 years.”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“The finest effort since the 1989 and 1990, this dense purple-colored wine has an extravagantly ripe, concentrated style. The 2000 (in a new engraved bottle) offers up aromas of blackberry liqueur and vintage port. As the wine sits in the glass, graphite, wet stones, smoke, barbecue spices, and olives also make an appearance. It unfolds on the palate in layers, is full-bodied, big and rich yet incredibly poised, well-balanced, and pure. Quite backward, this is one of the greatest Angelus made to date. Yields were a modest 35 hectoliters per hectare. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2030. Bravo!”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“An outrageously ripe, concentrated, dense effort, the 2000 offers up aromas of blackberry liqueur and vintage port. As the wine sits in the glass, graphite, wet stones, smoke, barbecue spices, and olives also make an appearance. It unfolds on the palate in layers, is full-bodied, big and rich yet incredibly poised, well-balanced, and pure. Quite backward, this may turn out to be the greatest Angelus made to date, but it is still too early to know. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2030. Bravo!”

- RP, Wine Advocate

A fine Angelus, unmistakably, this is a vin de garde. A huge, massive, firm, extraordinarily well-delineated Angelus with terrific purity and freshness. The color is a saturated port-like purple/black. With airing, the reluctant aromatics reveal scents of licorice, truffles, blackberries, plums, creme de cassis, smoke, and incense. The wine is excruciatingly tannic, but also phenomenally concentrated, full-bodied, and rich. Paradoxically, it is viscous yet has good acidity, one of the unusual characteristics of the 2000 vintage. This gives the wine freshness and delineation in spite of surreal levels of extract and richness. This looks to be one of the wines of the vintage. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2035.”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“Tasted at Farr Vintners’ vertical from ex-chateau magnum. The millennial Angelus has a very complex bouquet with blackberry, tar, truffle and a touch of mint. It is imbued with impressive delineation and focus: regal and aristocratic. The palate is medium-bodied with very fine, silky smooth tannins. Harmonious, focused, effortless, this is an outstanding Angelus. Such composure on the finish that has a Burgundy-like finish that still has a veneer of oak to subsume. This is the finest 2000 Angelus that I have tasted since en primeur. Tasted October 2011.”

- NM, Wine Journal

“Furnished with wonderful richness, this has notes of amazingly dark fruit and dark chocolate on the nose. Full-bodied and soft, this has a lovely velvety texture and a chocolate and coffee character. This is extensive and fresh, with hints of mint and spice on the finish.”

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

“Magnum. 50% Cabernet Franc, 50% Merlot. Very deep crimson but with some development at the rim (much more so than the 2001). Slightly burnt, tarry notes on the nose. Sweet start, much less freshness than the 2001. Tastes as though it were picked later. A very luscious wine with some strong green streaks.”

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Exceptionally deep crimson. Rather attractively ethereal top notes on a solid core of ripeness. Very attractive package – vivacious modern wine that offers great intensity and richness without being aggressively sweet or hot. It has still got a long way to go but it can certainly deliver pleasure already. Neat and very bright and bushy-tailed.”

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

Reviews *“Very deep, very thick crimson, Much denser than the succeeding vintages described above. Ripe and flattering. Very intense perfume which seems to fill the entire nose. Wonderfully rich and round with notes of flowers, orange peel, a lovely silky texture. Masses of ripe tannin. Very healthy. Exotic notes. Bursting with life.”*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Very, very deep (especially compared to the 2002). Still purplish crimson. Intense, ripe, and complex nose – prunes? – but not overripe. Mouth filling and impressive, with inky tannins lurking. Only the finish is very slightly disappointing – not especially long.”
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Deep ruby in color, looking perhaps a decade younger than its true age, the wine pops with truffle, smoke, licorice, a sprig of mint, dark chocolate and ripe plums. Silky, soft and fresh on the palate, in the finish, the wine feels like velvet, tastes like juicy dark, red fruits and bitter chocolate.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“It is hard to believe it's already been a few years since I last tasted the 2000 Angelus. Time has been good to this wine. Already stunning, almost 18 years of age has placed this wine into the next league. Cashmere tannins and an ocean of perfectly ripe, dark red fruits, licorice, truffle, flowers, smoke and toast lead the band. But on the palate is where the real deal lives. Luxurious, velvet textured fruit that lives with you for close to 60 seconds! This is pure, hedonistic pleasure in all the right places. I'm getting thirsty, just writing this note.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Licorice, floral, truffle, forest floor, Asian spice, coffee and jammy black plum liqueur make up the attention grabbing perfume. In the mouth, this is pure silk, velvet and cashmere. Rich, concentrated and with depth of flavor, this sublime St. Emilion wine will age for decades. I have high hopes current vintages will develop this level of complexity. Tasted at least 3 times on this trip from bottle and magnum, the wine consistently showed at this high level. With prices for the 2010 being as expensive as they are, for a top level bottle of Chateau Angelus, that is almost ready to drink, (2-3 years will add more complexity) this is worth buying.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“If you're seeking a wine with explosive, complex aromatics accompanied by endless waves of sexy, hedonistic fruit with a finish as exciting as the French Open in a great year, look no further. I get to taste this wine fairly often and I can honestly say, it gets better with every tasting. In time, this will probably be better than the legendary 90. Still young, if you only have a few bottles, wait until at least 2015 to begin experiencing this wines incredible and ample charms”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Deep, dark, purple tinted hues are beautiful to look at. The nose is filled with blackberry essence, plums, chocolate, stone, licorice and jam. On the palate, endless layers of rich, ripe, black and red fruits. Concentrated, complex and balanced. The polished, long, deep finish seems endless in this stunning Bordeaux.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
