

Château Berliquet 2015

CSPC# 749536

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

St Emilion

Website

<http://www.chateau-berliquet.com/>

General Info

The name of Berliquet is one of the oldest Saint-Emilion vineyard, this one is already on the cards Belleyme in 1768. Château Berliquet is located on the Magdelaine plateau, a few hundred meters from the village of Saint-Emilion.

This is one of the oldest estates in the region, and Berliquet is included on the famous map drawn by Belleyme (an engineer working for King Louis XV) in 1768. In 1829, Berliquet was considered one of Saint Emilion's five grands crus. The estate currently belongs to SCEA Château Berliquet, managed by Patrick and Jérôme de Lesquen.

The classification of 1986 allowed the castle Berliquet to find the place it held among the great wines of Saint Emilion. The year 1996 marked a turning point in the life of the castle Berliquet. With the support of Patrick Valette, Patrick De Lesquen and his team do their utmost to establish the reputation of the castle Berliquet.

The castle Berliquet listens to determine the optimum time for harvest. Thus, the castle Berliquet puts all his skills to bring you the best of its soil.

Vintage

The year 2015 appears to be the warmest and sunniest, throughout our country, since the beginning of meteorological statistics. A long heat wave and dry period allowed to achieve excellent flowering conditions until the arrival, in August, of miraculous rains. This rain enabled the vines to maintain the necessary water reserves and to provide requisite nourishment for perfect ripeness. The harvest began in September under a clear blue sky. Thanks to this ideal weather, we were able to wait for optimum ripeness for each grape variety.

All the conditions are there to allow 2015 to join the greatest vintages of Bordeaux.

Vineyards

The 9 hectares of vines face south by southwest and border on several Premiers Grands Crus Classés. Château Berliquet is divided into three parts: the plateau (25% of the total area under vine) with clay soil on a limestone subsoil, the slope (50%) with predominantly clay soil, and the pied de côte or "foot of the slope" (25%), with a high percentage of brown clay. Grape varieties consist of Merlot (70%), Cabernet Franc (25%), and Cabernet Sauvignon (5%). The average age of the vines is about 30 years.

Harvest

Hand harvested in small crates, picked between 22 September and 9 October, 8-9 October

Maturation

Since the takeover by Patrick Valette, winemaking has continued to progress. The length of macerated berries 20 to 30 days, the fermentation is conducted in small tanks under controlled temperature between 28 ° C and 30 ° C, followed by malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels. The wine is in monolithic limestone quarries located in the vineyard for about fifteen months in new barrels and 90%.

Serve with

Perfect for cellaring; yet showing very well right now. Open this bottle at home and witness how the flavors evolve and mature over the course of an evening or bring a bottle to your favorite restaurant to savor with a charred steak or short ribs braised in a red wine sauce.

Production

2,417 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2022-2032

Scores/Awards

92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2018

92-95 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2016

89 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - February 2018

91-93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #224 - April 2016

92 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2018

96-97 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2016



Scores/Awards **16.5 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016
91 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2016
93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - November 2017
91-93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2016
91-93+ points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - May 2016
90-91+ points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - March 2016
89 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2016
90 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - May 2016
93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2018
89-91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2016
91-93 points - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2016
16 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - June 2016
17 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - April 2016
17 points - Gault & Millau (score only) - June 2016

Reviews *"This has some heft, with dark currant, fig and blackberry confiture flavors liberally inlaid with graphite, singed mesquite and singed iron notes. Shows a grippy feel through the finish, but the fruit keeps pace, with the iron element lingering longest in the end. Best from 2022 through 2032. 2,417 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Delightfully pure, with great drive, offering a gorgeous beam of cassis, damson plum and raspberry coulis flavors. Though not shy on depth, this has a pretty iron note throughout and a long, floral-edged finish. Score range: 92-95"
- JS, Wine Spectator

"Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2015 Berliquet is a bit closed on the nose, with notions of baked plums and black soil with hints of fungi and bay leaves. The medium to full-bodied palate is a bit hollow with firm, chewy tannins and an herbal lift on the finish."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"The 2015 Berliquet is a blend of 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Franc picked between 22 September and 9 October, 8-9 October respectively at 35 hl/ha. It has a tight, linear nose at first, precise but tightly coiled with black cherry and bilberry fruit, a touch of slate in the background. The palate is very well balanced with elegant tannin, nicely pitched acidity, nothing ambitious or outrageous, an almost "courtly" Saint Emilion with grace and style. It should turn into a delicious wine, perhaps one more approachable than others."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"The 2015 Berliquet has an attractive bouquet with the same bilberry and blackberry fruit, a splash of hoisin and violet aromas that surface with aeration. It is backward as you would expect but there is intensity here. The palate is concentrated with rounded blackberry, dark plum and touches of sea salt. This is a stockier Berliquet than the previous vintage, good substance if not the finesse of the finest Saint-Émilions, demonstrating good length on the finish. Give this wine three or four years in bottle before broaching because it is not as approachable as I expected from barrel."
- NM, Wine Journal

"Here is a wine with great pedigree near Ausone. Full body, yet fast and agile. The finish lasts for minutes. You see the chalky soil in the wine."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"A Stéphane Derenoncourt wine. Under Nicolas Thienpont's direction since 2008. Picked relatively early from 22 September (for south-facing young vines) until 9 October. 75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc. Mild, well-behaved nose. Fine, polished tannins but without massive depth or drama. Reminds me a little of the Église-Clinet 2015. Slightly sandpapery on the finish."
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Bright and fragrant with dark fruit and chocolate notes. Firm lifted and long with a chalky note. Good line and tension. Smooth texture and tannins. Limestone grip and freshness on the finish."
-SS, Decanter.com

Reviews *"There has been a renewed interest in this property over the past few months because it has just been bought by Château Canon, and in 2015 you can clearly see the potential. It displays smoked and grilled edges and holds the palate firmly in place while it glides the vibrant red fruit along towards a menthol finish. Nicolas Thienpont has managed the property since 2008, although I assume this will end following the sale. Drinking Window 2023 - 2038. (JA)"*
-JA, Decanter.com

"Loads of fresh, sweet, juicy plums, ripe, black raspberries, minerality, licorice and floral notes. The wine shows freshness, depth and precision I have not tasted before here. Clearly, this is the best vintage ever for Berliquet! The wine was made from blend of 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Franc. The grapes were whole berry fermented and 15% of the berries were vinified with the stems still intact."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Deep; vibrant at edge; minerals, chalk with violet lift from the fruit; supple and attractive entry; these wines are nicely managed in the cellar; nicely balanced; nicely judged. [8.5ha in production, 75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc, 35hl/ha. Tasted Pavié Macquin 3/4/16. Drink 2020-2030. 91-93+ "
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

"[second tasting UGC 6/4/16] Mid depth; dark core; purple edge; little more minerally; black fruits beneath; harmonious entry on the palate; chalk and wet rocks; minerality again; little dry towards the back but the fruit returns on the end; grip on the finish. Appetizing will work very well. Drink 2022-2028. 90-91+ "
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

"Supple, charming and delicious now, this St Emilion red has lovely supple texture and dark plummy flavors. This is the best vintage from this producer that I have yet to taste."
- JCL, asianpalate.com

"The 2015 Berliquet has turned out beautifully. Sumptuous and inviting, it possesses remarkable depth and fruit intensity. Super-ripe red cherry, raspberry, wildflowers and mint all develop in this gracious, midweight Saint-Émilien. (AG)"
- AG, Vinous

"The 2015 Berliquet exudes richness and ripeness. Inky, unctuous and super-concentrated, the Berliquet is laced with the essence of crème de cassis, mocha, sweet oak, spices and vanilla. Forward and undeniably racy, the 2015 captures the flamboyance of the vintage in spades. This is a distinctly ripe style. The blend is 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Franc. Tasted two times."
- AG, Vinous
