

Château Berliquet 2019

CSPC# 749536

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

77% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc

Appellation

St Emilion

Classification

Grand Cru Classé

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 grand 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.

Chateau Berliquet was sold to luxury goods empire Chanel Group in October 2017. Chanel, which is owned by the Wertheimer family, also owns Château's Canon and Rauzan-Ségla in Bordeaux, as well as St. Supéry Estate Vineyards and Winery in Napa Valley.

Winemaker

Nicolas Thienpont and Stephane Derenoncourt consult.

Vintage

Winter: very mild. Spring: cool. Summer: exceptionally hot and dry. Autumn: very fine start to the season, some rainfall end September.

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 slop" (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.

Vineyards

Harvest

Hand harvested in small crates. Merlot: 17 to 30 September Cabernet Franc: 30 September to 3 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 16 months in 45% new barrels.

Tasting Notes

Berliquet 2019 has an assertive character with a full and generous attack. Then the palate savors the density and tension, with delicate summer fruit aromas. The minerality of the terroir and the power of the clay evidence the wine's earthy character.

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

3,500 cases made.

Cellaring

Drink 2027-2050

Scores/Awards

91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2022

94 points - William Kelley, Wine Advocate - April 2022



Scores/Awards **93 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2022

93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2020

93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2022

92-94 points - Farr Vintner - May 2020

92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2022

90 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2022

92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2022

93 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - January 2020

92+ points - Thomas Parker MW - October 2021

16 points - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2020

Reviews *"Friendly in feel, with a rounded edge to the mix of plum, cassis and black cherry preserve flavors. Features a melted licorice snap note that drapes over the finish, with flickers of savory and chalky minerality adding nice contrast. Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2023 through 2036."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2019 Berliquet is showing beautifully, wafting from the glass with aromas of cherries, wild berries, sweet spices, violets, and forest floor. Medium to full-bodied, seamless, and elegant, with terrific depth at the core, lively acids, and ripe, powdery tannins, it concludes with a long, mineral finish. It's produced from a 9.5-hectare vineyard that encompasses three soil types: Saint-Émilion's limestone plateau (like its sibling, Château Canon); the slope, characterized by deep clay; and then sandy, colluvial soils at the foot of the slope. Right now, it's planted with 70% Merlot and the balance Cabernet Franc, but the percentage of the latter is increasing as replanting progresses. Drink Date 2027 – 2050."

- WK, Wine Advocate

"Dark plums, baked blueberries, chocolate, lemon zest and sage on the nose. Medium-bodied with vibrant acidity and fine, sleek tannins. Fresh and focused with a pretty finish. Drink after 2024."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Vibrant damson in colour. I love the deep creaminess that is evident from the first nose, with hints of cocoa and gun smoke. There is more clay here than at Canon; about 50% of the vineyard has a clay layer over the limestone whereas at Canon it is closer to 10%, meaning Berliquet is less ethereal, more urgent, and powerful, still with precision and feathery chalky tannins. They have restored the underground limestone cellars for barrel ageing. A yield of 45hl/ha. 45% new oak, for what is the 2nd full year of the Canon team working the vineyard. Thomas Duclos consultant."

- JA, Decanter.com

"Loads of black plums, flowers, chocolate, and citrus notes come through easily on the nose. Medium-bodied, soft, elegant, sweet, and fresh, with a salty minerality accent to the red pit fruits in the endnote, this refined gem should age quite nicely. Drink 2024-2037."

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2018 was a breakthrough vintage for Berliquet with the wine becoming very much like Canon in style. The 2019 continues in that trend, a blend of 77% Merlot and 23% Cabernet Franc which will be aged in 45% new French oak. For the first time, the wine will age in historical quarries that took two years to renovate. The harvest too found new levels of precision, with an intra-plot harvest and use of new, smaller vats for fermentation. The palate is deep ruby in colour, with perfumed red fruit and a little sweet kirsch on the nose. The palate is ripe, fleshy, and round, with no hard edges. Creamy red fruits are interlaced with star anise, cedar, and fresh leather. The tannins are wonderfully fine and ripe, gently framing the wine. Persistent, vibrant red fruits linger on the finish. Tasted in Bordeaux."

- Farr Vintners

"The 2019 Berliquet has a refined bouquet of lifted dried iris petal scents mingling with blackberry and wild strawberry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with lithe tannins and fleshy red berry fruit laced with tobacco and Chinese five-spice, and very well proportioned and detailed on the finish. Sophisticated. Tasted twice. Drink 2025-2045."

- NM, Vinous

Reviews *“The 2019 Berliquet opens with an attractive burst of dark red fruit, exotic spice, and flowers. There is good freshness and energy, but the rustic quality of the tannin is impossible to escape. Berliquet remains a work in progress. I suspect the vineyard will require quite a bit of attention in the coming years. Tasted three times. Drink 2026-2039.”*

- AG, Vinous

“A blend of 77% Merlot and 23% Cabernet Franc, aged in 45% new French oak. Mid ruby colour, with a floral and bright, red-fruited nose. There are hints of green spice and seductive vanilla. The palate is equally bright, with lively acids and high-toned red fruit turning to cherry blossom and violet. This is positively zippy, but there remains a core of flesh underneath. The tannins are fine, soft, and ripe, making for a very approachable style. Long and pure in red fruit through to the finish.”

- Tom Parker MW

“The 2019 Château Berliquet shows the vintage’s pure, elegant, nicely focused style beautifully. Giving up lots of ripe black cherries, iron, hints of darker currants, tobacco, and loamy earth, it’s medium-bodied, has a supple, balanced mouthfeel, polished tannins, and a great finish. I’d be happy to drink bottles any time over the coming 10-15 years or so.”

- Jeb Dunnuck
