

Château Beau-Séjour Bécot 2000

CSPC#753874

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

70% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon

Appellation

Saint Emilion

General Info

Situated on the St Martin de Mazerat plateau, immediately to the west of the old town, Beau-Séjour Bécot lies in the very heart of Saint-Emilion.

This historic vineyards of Chateau Beau-Sejour Becot has a long and interesting history. Beau-Sejour Becot began life as an estate owned by the monks of St. Martin Abbey in St. Emilion. The monks managed the Bordeaux vineyards at what later become Chateau Canon. They also watched over the vines that were used to eventually create Beau-Sejour Becot.

Beau-Sejour Becot found its name in 1787 with the help and idea of a member from the Figeac family. General Jacques de Carles, who was part of the Figeac family said the estate should be called Beau-Sejour Becot. The name stuck! Skipping ahead over 100 years, Pierre-Paulin Ducarpe split the Beau-Sejour Becot vineyards between his two children, giving the chateau, plus other structures along with half his vineyards to his daughter. After she married, she took her husband's name, Duffau-Lagarosse. That marriage gave birth to what we now know of as Chateau Beausejour-Duffau-Lagarosse.

In 1924, Chateau Beau-Sejour became the property of Doctor Jean Fagouet. Michel Becot, whose family lived in St. Emilion since 1760 owned Château La Carte since 1929. In 1969, the Becot's purchased Beau-Sejour, renaming it Beau-Sejour Becot. In 1979, the Bécot family enlarged Beau-Sejour Becot with the purchase of 11 acres of Bordeaux vineyards on the Trois Moulins plateau. Since 1985, the property has been managed by his sons, Gérard and Dominique. Gerard's daughter, Juliette Becot is involved in running Beau-Sejour Becot, as well as the families other properties in St. Emilion and Cotes de Castillon.

Michel Bécot retired in 1985, turning over the management of the chateau to his two sons Gérard and Domonic. Juliette rejoined them in 2001.

Vineyards

Situation: on the western plateau of Saint-Emilion, in the old parish of Saint-Martin de Mazerat. Surface area: 16,52 ha. Whole estate: 18,50 ha.

Soil: chalk with fossilised starfish. Grape varieties: 70% Merlot, 24% Cabernet franc, 6% Cabernet sauvignon. Planting density: 6,600 vines per hectare.

Average age of vines: 40 years.

Harvest

Harvest: by hand. Yields: controlled to between 30 and 38 hl per hectare.

Vinification/

Maturation

Fruit screening on three separate tables. (2 before de-stemming, 1 after).

Vatting: in stainless steel, temperature controlled, vats and in new barrels (600 litres). Processing of fruit plot by plot. The floating crust is regularly immersed in the must by hand. Vatting period: approximately 30 days (between 28° and 32° C) The wine is run-off into barrels without using pumps. Malolactic fermentation in barrels.

80 to 100 % in new barrels, according to vintage. 16 to 18 months in a cellar at constant temperature of 16 °C.

Tasting Notes

The quality of the wine produced at château Beau-Sejour Becot is steadily improving since the mid-1980s. It is precisely at this time (in 1985) that this castle was deprived of its classification of premier grand cru, and then regained its position as premier grand cru in 1996. The Bécot family carefully develops a great wine of coastline, rich, nervous, finer and more complex after several years of aging. This wine has elegant fruity aromas, combined with fine notes of wood. With a natural bouquet of truffle and spice, it also shows soft and smooth. Very ripe and flashy wine with loads of tannin at the finish. Quite extracted, but plenty of fruit to carry it.

Production

4,600 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2014-2024



Scores/Awards **89 points** - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2003
89-91 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2001
92 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #189 - June 2010
93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #146 - April 2003
92-94 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #139 - February 2002
90-93 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #134 - April 2001
95 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012
92-94 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010
92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 1, 2003
94-96 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 8, 2010
91 points - Stephen Tanzer, ST's International Wine Cellar - May/June 2003
17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com (score only)
16.67 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - August 2010
92 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only)
93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - January 29, 2013
93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 4, 2012
91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - January 15, 2009
16.5 points - Vinum Wine Magazine - April 2011 (score only)
16 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
1 star - Le Guide Hachette des Vins - 2004

Reviews *"Slightly herbal, with berry and tobacco character. Full-bodied, chewy and rich, with a velvety and medium fruity finish. Very extracted. A bit too much for me, but very good. Best after 2007."*
- JS, Wine Spectator

"Very intense aromas of dried herbs and berries. Full-bodied, with lots of velvety tannins and a berry, tobacco aftertaste. A bit more in the midpalate would move it up a notch. Score range: 89-91."
- JS, Wine Spectator

"This full-bodied, modern-styled St.-Emilion offers a sensational perfume of smoky barbecue, jammy black currants, kirsch, licorice, and a touch of pain grille. Fleshy, savory, and full-bodied, it has shed much of its tannin, but still possesses abundant structure. It is an intense, modern-styled, mouth filling, sumptuous, attention-getting wine to drink over the next decade."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"This the greatest Beau Sejour-Becot I have ever tasted. The opaque purple 2000 has put on weight during its elevelage and, from the bottle, appears to be spectacular. The wood is well-integrated, and the fruit, glycerin, and overall flavor dimensions are noteworthy. The bouquet smells of ink, espresso, jammy blackberries and currants, wet stones, and licorice. Super-pure and fabulously extracted, with high tannin, full body, a thick texture, and awesome richness and length, this blockbuster effort will be at its finest between 2008-2025."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Is this the greatest Beau-Sejour-Becot ever produced? The 2000 has put on weight over the last year and appears to be a spectacular effort in this vintage. The wood is better integrated, and the fruit, glycerin, and overall dimensions are noteworthy. The color is an opaque purple. The bouquet smells of ink, jammy blackberries and currants, wet stones, and licorice. Super-pure and fabulously extracted, with high tannin, full body, and awesome richness and length, this blockbuster effort will be at its finest between 2008-2025."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"This modern-styled St.-Emilion displays abundant wood, although it is better integrated in 2000 than in some past vintages. Deep and full-bodied, it reveals an excellent saturated purple color, sweet black cherry and currant fruit intermixed with smoke and toast, outstanding purity, and considerable fat, but the vintage's hard, earthy tannin makes an appearance in the finish. This is an example of a wine where the fat is underneath the tannin rather than on top. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2018."
- RP, Wine Advocate

Reviews *“First tasted at the UGC in November 2002: deep opaque colour. Very muted nose: just some light red fruits, all a bit obvious. Soft supple wine but a dry edge to it. Notes of cigar box and cassis. Again, lacks some simple depth and concentration. Light tannins. Hopefully will improve. In October 2003 tasted blind, the answer is no, it has not improved. Deep garnet core. Nose has less fruit concentration than others. Comparatively stinky. Palate seems a bit forced and one-dimensional and flaccid. Green on the finish. A poor wine in the context of the vintage. Tasted November 2004.”*

- NM, Wine Journal

“The Becots, Gérard and Dominique, have produced a stylish, modern wine that powers black, sweet fruits through the deceptively soft tannins. Tarry flavors and layers of new wood give the wine a new world character. How long it will last is open to question at this stage. It is certainly developing quickly.”

- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“Bright medium ruby. Smoky aromas of black raspberry, roast coffee, meat and nutty oak. Silky and supple on entry, then lush and sweet in the middle, with expansive, slightly jammy plum, currant, chocolate and licorice flavors. Nicely structured and firm for a wine this rich and sweet, thanks to solid underlying acidity and substantial ripe, tooth coating tannins. A very broad, consistent, concentrated wine that should unfold nicely over the next decade or so”

- ST, International Wine Cellar

“Big, concentrated nose, more extraction than most. Good, rich and chocolatey fruit, quite thick and robust. Lacks a little complexity, but an impressive wine. Drink from 2010.”

- SS, Decanter.com

“At just past 10 years of bottle age, this is starting to open nicely, with a nose packed with earth, truffle, crushed stone, juicy plums and tobacco. Refined, elegant and soft, the finish leaves you with a rich sensation of pure, ripe blackberries.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“With a nose filled with truffles, minerals, plums and smoke, this soft, round textured, elegant, St. Emilion wine is open and enjoyable to drink today. The wine ends with fresh, sweet, jammy blackberries, earth and dark cherry notes. The wine has improved since I last tasted it about 3 years ago.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Already showing a bit of lightness around the edges, this black fruit, earth, mineral and truffle perfumed wine improved a lot in the glass. Full bodied with soft textures, this is starting to display all its ample charms.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
