

Château Dassault GC 2009

CSPC# 721263

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation	Saint Emilion
General Info	Created in 1862 by Victor Beylot, Château Couperie was purchased in 1955 by Marcel Dassault (an aviator), who renovated the estate as well as gave his name to it. Château Dassault has been a Grand Cru Classé since 1969. Laurent Dassault currently manages the estate with the same passion and pride as his grandfather. Since 1995, he and Director Laurence Brun Vergriette have been striving for maximum quality: draining the vineyard, reducing yields, applying pesticide management and trimming the leaves on both sides of the vine. All of this contributes to growing perfectly ripe, healthy grapes. The vat room was fully renovated, and grapes are carefully inspected twice on vibrating sorting tables. The grapes from each vineyard are fermented separately, making it possible to fine-tune the final blend.
Soil	The vineyards amount to a little under 29 hectares which surround the <i>château</i> in a single block, planted on a <i>terroir</i> of ancient siliceous and siliceous limestone sand.
Vineyards	Merlot dominates around 70% of the vineyard, with 23% Cabernet Franc and 7% Cabernet Sauvignon. Average vine age 35yrs
Harvest	Come harvest time the fruit is assessed by tasting, before hand-picking and transport in small crates to the <i>cuvier</i> , where optical sorting technology assists the Dassault team in fruit selection. Oct 6-20, 2009.
Vinification/ Maturation	Thereafter the fruit is pressed and vinified in concrete vats on a plot-by-plot basis. Most of the vats are about 60 hectoliters to facilitate this granular approach. Aged in small concrete vats with internal temperature controls. Malolactic fermentation in new barrels. Aged 80% in new barrels and 20% in 1yr old barrels for 14-18 months.
Tasting Notes	The impressive, opaque purple color is followed by <i>plum liqueur</i> , licorice/eucalyptus, cherry, blueberry, blue flower, and graphite dust aromas. It offers sensational levels of extract, coddles of nuances to the flavor, <i>liquefied minerals</i> , and a full-bodied, dense impression. This is large scaled, extravagantly rich wine coupled with a beautifully pure finish.
Production	50,000 bottles produced
Cellaring	2014-2027
Scores/Awards	92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012 90-93 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010 90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012 86-88 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010 91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012 90-92 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2010 17+ points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010 16.5 points/4 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010
Reviews	<i>"This has depth and plenty of fruit in reserve, offering dark currant confiture, linzer torte and blackberry sauce notes still wound tightly at the core, with anise and toasty spice filling in on the finish. Very solid, just needs some cellaring to stretch out. Best from 2014 through 2022. 4,165 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator <i>"Blueberry and mineral aromas, with violets too. Full-bodied, with silky tannins and a long, caressing finish. Balanced and attractive. Score range: 90-93."</i> - JS, Wine Spectator



Reviews *“Showing far superior from bottle than it did from barrel, the proprietor (the same as the famous military and corporate jet manufacturer) has turned out a sexy, opulent, fruit-laden wine with an abundance of black cherries, black currants, spring flowers and some background earth and licorice. This is a lusty, flamboyant and extroverted style of wine to drink over the next 10-15 years.*

- RP, Wine Advocate

“From a property that I tend to find seductive and luscious, the 2009 Dassault is somewhat foursquare and monolithic. While it is not as charming as I expected, the wine is solidly made and pleasant. It should be consumed over the next 5-7 years. (Tasted two times.)”

- RP, Wine Advocate

“Tasted at the Union de Grand Cru in London, the Dassault 2009 has a more masculine bouquet with dark fruits, touches of tobacco and leather evolving with time. The palate is medium bodied with crisp acidity, firm grip although a little primal and backward towards the tannic finish and traces of iodine on the aftertaste. Give this Saint Emilion two or three years in the old cellar. Tasted October 2011.

- NM, Wine Journal

“Tasted at the Association de Crus Classe tasting at Grand Pontet. Lifted black cherry and blueberry fruit on the nose with good definition and freshness. Well integrated new oak. The palate is well balanced with fine tannins, harmonious, quite suave with lovely black cherry, blueberry and cooked meat flavours on the well-defined finish. Very fine. Tasted March 2010.”

- NM, Wine Journal

“Gamey nose. Very thick and dense. All stops pulled out here! The organ is playing at max volume!! This is 2009 squared. Very snazzy and opulent and aiming to satisfy the hedonist’s every wish. Long and rich but with a really refreshing acid level. Long.”

- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Very good this year. Smooth, suave and concentrated (low yields due to the hail). Gourmand but balanced as well. Drink 2014- 2024.”

- SS, Decanter.com
