
Château Faugères 2015

CSPC# 801707

750mlx12

15.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation St Emilion
Classification Grand Cru Classé
Website <http://www.chateau-faugeres.com/chateau-appellation-saint-emilion-grand-cru-en/chateau-saint-emilion-vintages.html>

General Info Château Faugeres is a St Emilion Grand Cru that is now producing text book new wave St Emilions. In 1823, the Esquissaud family acquired the estates of Châteaux Faugères and Péby Faugères. Then in 1987, the land was inherited by Pierre-Bernard Guisez. Up to then, all the wine produced had been sold to a single local merchant. P. Guisez and his wife Corinne wanted to become more involved in the vineyards, setting out on a quest for the finest quality. Their wish was to see these exquisite terroirs become jewels in the crown of the Saint-Emilion Grand Cru appellation, a desire that was to be fulfilled in a short time with the help of Michel Rolland. Since 1997 the property has been owned by the film producer, Péby Guisez and his wife Corine and they have energetically breathed new life into it.

Vintage 2015 St. Emilion has it all going on. Frankly, I could sum this article up rather quickly by just saying, "2015 Saint Emilion Rocks!"
Across the board, 2015 St. Emilion was lucky. Vineyards in the cool clay soils that harvested late made stunning wines. But so, did the estates on the limestone plateau, in the gravel soils and properties on the more sandy terroir were also quite successful. That does not mean buyers do not need to be choosy. Some estates pushed the pedal to the metal a bit too far. There are overly extracted wines, and wines that are aging in too much new oak. But generally speaking, the level of quality here is homogenous. 2015 St. Emilion is the product of a hot, dry summer, with drought conditions. April was hot. June was hotter. July was scorching, and the lack of water exacerbated those conditions. What made this unique was that this level of heat is usually experienced later in the growing season. That was not the case with 2015. Fortunately, the rains in August arrived in the nick of time, providing enough nourishment to allow the growth cycle to continue.

Vineyards There are 20 hectares of vineyards planted with Merlot (70%), Cabernet Franc (25%) and Cabernet Sauvignon (5%). Surface area: 37 hectares; Soil: limestone plateau (asteria limestone subsoil) dating back to the upper Oligocene; limestone and clay slope (limestone soil on clay-limestone molasse) dating back to the upper Eocene and Oligocene; Grape varieties: 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon; Average of vines: 35 years; Planting density: 6,000 vine stocks/hectare

Harvest between September 23 and October 12

**Vinification/
Maturation** This was the third harvest to be vinified entirely in the new cellar, designed by Mario Botta and known as the "cathedral of wine", using all the latest processing technology, such as cold storage rooms, visual sorting, gravity flow on three levels, pneumatic crushing and automatic density control. The grapes are fermented in temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks and the wines are matured in barriques for 15 months.

Tasting Notes Rich in anthocyanins and has velvety and finely extracted tannins. There is a freshness on the palate and perfect balance. The wines are very aromatic, with notes of red berries, menthol and licorice, and a marked mineral character. A long finish, fruity and fresh.

Production 7,917 cases made

Cellaring Drink 2019-2036



Scores/Awards **93 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2018
92-95 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2016
92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - February 2018
89-91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #224 - April 2016
89 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - March 2018
95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2018
93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2016
93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2016
15 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2016
88 points - James Lawther, Decanter.com - April 2016
94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2018
92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - July 2017
91-93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2016
91-94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2016
92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2018
14.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - June 2016
16.5 points - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - April 2016
16 points - Gault & Millau (score only) - June 2016

Reviews *"Beautiful aromas and flavors of warm fig and boysenberry reduction lead off, with extra raspberry and cassis notes filling in behind them. Lush in feel, with the structure nicely embedded, letting extra licorice, fruitcake and singed mesquite details chime in. The finish ripples with fruit and fresh acidity. Best from 2023 through 2035. 7,917 cases made."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

"Offers intense fruit, with plum, currant and raspberry flavors laced with mouthwatering anise and singed iron notes. Very rich yet has cut and a lovely licorice snap edge that keeps the fruit pumping along. Score range: 92-95"

- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2015 Faugeres is a blend of 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon aged for 15 months in French oak, 50% new. Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it has a nose of baked plums, warm cherries and black berries with touches of meat and fried spices. The full-bodied mouth is rich, opulent and spicy with firm, velvety tannins and lovely freshness lifting the finish"

- NM, Wine Advocate

"The 2015 Faugeres is a blend of 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the consultant no less than Stephan Von Niepperg. It has a neat and tidy bouquet, nothing too ambitious, with tightly knitted red and black fruit - boysenberry and blueberry emerging with time. The palate is very smooth and sensual, the acidity well judged, no sharp corners here with a lush, slightly saline finish. This is a thoughtfully crafted Saint Emilion that should drink earlier than many of its peers."

"The 2015 Faugeres has an attractive bouquet with mulberry, Morello cherries, a touch of balsamic and autumn leaves. This is nicely defined and seems to gain complexity in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with a savory entry and moderate acidity, but it seems to lack the grace and sophistication of the aromatics, especially toward the finish."

- NM, Wine Journal

"Very deep-set aromas of blackberries and red and dark plum fruits set amid integrated oak spices, cedar and hints of earth. The palate has a super plush feel with intense flavors of blueberries and dark plums. Succulent tannins that are smooth, entrancing and very long. Try from 2022."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"A silky textured presence to this wine with a salty and minerally undertone. Full and beauty. Excellent backbone."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

Scores/Awards *“93–95. Barrel Sample. Smooth and opulent, this is a densely tannic wine. Its dark fruits and dusty texture are backed by juicy acidity and a core of framing tannins. It will be powerful and rich with age.”*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

“Silvio Denz property. Very dark and brooding. Thick and quite painful to taste. Bit of a throwback? Old concentrated style.”
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

“Tight and firm but with juicy fruit and overriding tension. Dry, minerally finish, the extraction giving a chewy edge.”
- JL, Decanter.com

“Fruity, fleshy and fresh, this combines perfectly ripe, opulently textured, red and black fruits, velvet textures and a long end note of licorice, espresso, ripe black plums and black cherry, with a bit of cocoa on top of the fruit. Round, fat, juicy, sweet, ripe, dark red fruits, cocoa, anise, smoke and plums are made even better with the lushly textured mouth feel, silky tannins and sweet, ripe, polished fruits in the finish.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“With more silk on the tannins, additional layers of fruit and complexity, this should easily hit the top of my barrel scores with its round, fat, juicy, sweet, ripe, dark red fruits, cocoa, anise, smoke and plums. The lushly textured finish leaves an impression.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Round, fat, juicy, sweet, ripe, dark red fruits, cocoa, anise, smoke and plums are made even better with the lushly textured mouth feel, silky tannins and sweet, ripe, polished fruits in the finish. The wine is made from a blend of 80% Merlot, 15 Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2015 Faugères is a deep, sensual Saint-Emilion redolent of dark cherry, plum, mocha and savory herbs. Like all of Silvio Denz's wines, the Faugères emphasizes textural richness and intensity. Readers will find plenty of both here. The blend is 80% Merlot, 15 Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon brought in between September 23 and October 12.”
- AG, Vinous

“The 2015 Château Faugeres includes slightly less Merlot than the 2016 and is 75% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 10% Cabernet Franc. Like a lot of 2015s, it's already open and approachable and offers lots of cassis and black cherry fruits, plenty of spice, herbs and earth nuances. With medium to full-bodied richness, terrific purity and elegance, and present, yet sweet tannin, I suspect it will fill in with 2-3 years in the cellar and keep for 15+. Tasted twice.”
- Jeb Dunnuck
