

Château Faugères 2017

CSPC# 801707

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	85% Merlot, 10% 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	<p>Château Faugères is a St Emilion Grand Cru that is now producing textbook 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.</p>
Winemaker	Michel Rolland consults.
Vintage	<p>Clearly, 2017 Saint Emilion will always be remembered as the year of the frost. The nights of April 27 and April 28 hit temperatures of below -4 Celsius. The Right Bank has not experienced this much damage from frost since 1991. Second generation fruit, the grapes that start growing after the frost, was successful to varying degrees. The results depended on the vineyard, terroir and good luck. The problem with those grapes is, if they reached maturity, it was not at the same time as the main harvest, so the berries needed separate vinifications. It was a lot of work especially since the percentage of second-generation grapes used is quite low.</p> <p>Another difficulty, or opportunity, depending on the situation was that first-generation grapes are the product of a cooler, dry growing season and the second-generation grapes received more sun, inheriting riper characteristics and higher degrees of alcohol, giving you 2 different wine styles. This is where the magic of blending comes in.</p> <p>Part of the reason the frost struck with such ferocity was that it hit just after bud-break, when the plants are at their most delicate stage of development. The vineyards which survived the frost were still looking for an early, and hopefully successful harvest.</p>
Vineyards	<p>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</p>
Harvest	<p>Manual harvest. The fruit was picked between September 14th and the 30th, with a yield of 30 hl/ha.</p>
Vinification/ Maturation	<p>The vinification was traditional, in cuvees, with malolactic fermentation and élevage in barrels, 50% new, 50% second fill.</p>
Tasting Notes	<p>This has a rather restrained, slightly dusty character to the nose, perfumed, with lovely fruit ripeness behind it, black cherry laced with a little dark chocolate. There follows a supple start to the palate, with black cherry and spiced plum, with a tense, stony, minerally confidence wrapped up in it. Cool, fresh, and filled with grippy tannin which persists through the long finish. This is very good indeed.</p>



Serve with	Chateau Faugères is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes.
Production	3,833 cases made
Cellaring	Drink 2022-2032
Scores/Awards	<p>92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2020</p> <p>93+ points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2020</p> <p>90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - April 2018</p> <p>90-92+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate #236 - April 2018</p> <p>95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2020</p> <p>92-93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2018</p> <p>90-92 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2018</p> <p>91 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2018</p> <p>92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2018</p> <p>89-91 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2018</p> <p>89-92 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2018</p> <p>93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2020</p> <p>90-92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - April 2018</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"This is built on well-buried chalky minerality that gives the core of plum and raspberry fruit a noticeable spine. Tobacco, sanguine and savory streaks fill in through the finish. Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2022 through 2032. 3,833 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Solid plum and boysenberry compote flavors form the core. Licorice snap and fruitcake notes fill in the background. Lively acidity pulls all the elements together. 3,833 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2017 Faugères comes sashaying out of the glass with pretty kirsch, Black Forest cake and chocolate box scents followed by hints of rosehip tea, fallen leaves and cloves. Medium-bodied, the palate has a velvety texture and bags of perfumed fruit, finishing long and fragrant. The wine was aged in 50% new and 50% second fill French oak barrels for 15 months. The blend is 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. Rating: 93+."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The current blend is 85% Merlot, with smaller portions of Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2017 Faugeres is a little shy to begin, revealing crushed black cherries, mulberries and red currants with coaxing plus hints of lavender, bay leaves and tilled soil. Medium-bodied with a firm frame of grainy tannins and just enough freshness, it delivers oodles of black fruit and a refreshing lift to the finish."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The polish and finesse to this wine is very impressive with medium to full body and ultra-fine tannins that caress every inch of your palate. Strong, ripe dark-berry flavors and a powerful build to the finish. Reserved and finely tanned, the wine goes on and on. Shows reserve and poise. Racy. Drink after 2022."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"A solid and layered red with blackberries, wet earth and spices. Cloves. Medium to full body, ripe tannins and a juicy finish."</i> - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"90-92. Barrel Sample. Ripe and juicy, this wine is going to develop quickly. It has plenty of attractive fruitiness and is lightly spiced, with a crisp, fruity aftertaste. Drink from 2022."</i> - RV, Wine Enthusiast</p>

Reviews *“Faugères is never afraid to gloss up, and here it works well - imparting a sexy burnished black fruit edge to the wine, with firm tannins and a juicy freshness running through it. Estate typicity that marries well with the conditions of the year- and in this cooler sector of St-Émilion that must have taken skilled winemaking. Drinking Window 2025 – 2040.”*

- JA, Decanter.com

“Fleshy and plush, round and rich, this wine is sweet, fruity, forward and should be great close to its release. The wine was made from a blend of 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon.”

- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Inky purple colour. Liquorice spice and blue fruit aromas. Inviting and concentrated. Rich plush sweet fruit extract. Dry tannins and fresh acidity underneath. Very enjoyable. Excellent value for money here. Barrel Sample: 89-91.”

- TA, timatkin.com

“A pleasure-bent Saint-Emilion based on 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2017 Chateau Faugères boasts a healthy ruby color as well as ripe, sexy notes of blackberries, red currants, flowery incense, and spice. While this cuvee is usually a powerhouse, it’s more refined and elegant in 2017 and has medium to full-bodied richness, a light, graceful texture, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It’s always a good value and delivers the goods, and the 2017 is no exception.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Always a beautiful wine, the 2017 Château Faugères comes from 35-year-old vines located on the Saint-Emilion/Castillon border, on south-facing clay and limestone soils. A rough blend of 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon that will spend 15 months in 50% new oak, its deep purple color is followed by terrific notes of crème de cassis and blackberry fruit, ground herbs, and spring flowers. With a beautiful elegance, nicely integrated acidity, and fine tannin, it shows the perfumed, classic style of the vintage and will keep for 10-15 years. Tasted twice.”

- Jeb Dunnuck
