

Château Faugères 2020

CSPC# 801707

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	70% Merlot, 21% Cabernet Franc, 9% 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
Sustainability	HVE3. viticulture close to the organic, herbicide-free.
General Info	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.
Winemaker	Michel Rolland consults.
Vintage	2020 was a highly contrasted vintage that got off to a difficult start. The year began with an exceptionally rainy winter followed by a very mild spring. In this context, protecting the vines against mildew and managing the soil was a real struggle. The first miracle appeared in mid-May, with dry and warm conditions during one of the earliest flowerings we have seen, two weeks ahead of schedule. The second miracle was on 19 June when the rain stopped, and the weather turned dry and cool until the beginning of the grape colour-change in mid-July. It is at this point in time that summer settled in for good, with some spells of heat through to mid-August when thunderstorms provided some relief and allowed the Merlot grapes to swell. The later-ripening Cabernets remained the size of blueberries until harvest, and the Merlots will ripen slowly until mid-September. The result was a vintage harvested about ten days early, mostly in sunny conditions. Both the Merlot and Cabernet were tannic, colourful and perfectly balanced. The grapes quickly expressed an intense aromatic expression in the vats. Château Faugères 2020 will be remembered for its excellent quality and ageing potential.
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
Vinification/ Maturation	The vinification was traditional, in cuvees, with malolactic fermentation and élevage in barrels. 12 months of ageing. 1/3 in new French oak barrels, 1/3 in barrels of one previous wine, 1/3 in barrels of two previous wines.
Tasting Notes	Intense purple colour with violet hue and almost black core. Opulent and aromatic nose reminiscent of blackberries, Crème de Cassis, wild strawberries, mild spices, and dark chocolate. On the palate rich yet elegant character with good tension, well balanced with a juicy fruit, ripe tannins, and elegant acidity. Fruit lingering in the aftertaste, convincing length, and aromatic depth.
Serving info	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	100,000 bottles



**Cellaring
Scores/Awards**

Drink 2025-2040

- 91-93 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - May 2021
- 94 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent - March 2023
- 94-95 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - May 2021
- 16 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2021
- 91 points** - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2021
- 94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2023
- 93-95 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2021
- 85 points** - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com (score only) - April 2021
- 91-93 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - April 2021
- 93-95 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2021
- 87 points** - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - April 2021
- 92-94 points** - Yves Beck (score only) - June 2021
- 92-94 points** - Peter Moser, Falstaff Magazine - May 2021
- 94 points** - Terres de Vins (score only) - September 2021
- 95-96 points** - Vert de Vin - May 2021
- 91-93 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - July 2021
- 88-89 points** - Bettane & Desseauve (score only) - July 2021
- 15.5 points** - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only) - September 2021

Reviews

"Deep purple-black colored, the 2020 Faugères stampedes out of the glass with a herd of powerful black fruit notes: blackberry pie, baked black plums and ripe, juicy black cherries, plus hints of wild mushrooms, damp soil, tar, and star anise with a waft of tobacco. The full-bodied palate is chock-full of black fruit preserves, framed by ripe, rounded tannins and oodles of freshness, finishing long and earthy."
- LPB, Wine Advocate

"The 2020 Faugères from Saint Emilion has a deep garnet-purple color. It requires some patient swirling to unlock scents of tar, forest floor, wet slate, and garrigue, before opening out to a fragrant core of baked plums and boysenberry preserves, with a waft of Indian spices. The full-bodied palate is ripe, concentrated, and fantastically bright, with unbelievable tension and freshness lifting the concentrated flavors to a very long, velvety finish."
- LPB, Wine Independent

"A ripe, rich red that delivers loads of crushed-berry, chocolate, and walnut character, as well as fine tannins through the center palate. Layered texture. Barrel Sample: 94-95."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Full, specially embossed bottle 1,355 g. Cask sample taken 7 April. Deep purple. Intense nose of concentrated mulberry fruit that is evident on the palate. The fruit just about manages to mask the considerable tannin. Rather marked, slightly uncomfortable, acidity on the rather drying, sudden finish. Ambitious. Borderline exaggerated. But it should appeal to fans of late-20th-century St-Émilion."
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Always a concentrated wine and with low 23hl/ha yields it is expectedly so. This translates as intense charred oak on the nose, but they have done a good job of balancing it with ripe berry fruit alongside liquorice and black chocolate. Sleek and confident with clear depth. Another wine that shows the success of Cabernet Sauvignon in the right places of St-Emilion."
- JA, Decanter.com

"Truffles, cocoa, dark red fruits, licorice, and spice create a perfume that wants to get noticed. On the palate, the wine is rich, lush, concentrated, deep and polished. Yet, it is balanced by its freshness, lift and elegance that makes everything work here from start to the vibrant, cocoa, plum and spice-box finish. Drink from 2024-2040."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Dark in color, the black cherry, flower, licorice, plum liqueur, and espresso nose jumps out in front. On the palate, the wine is opulent, rich, full-bodied, deep, and concentrated. The perfectly ripe fruit is dark, opulent, and polished with velvety textures, length and volume on the mid-palate and finish."
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

Reviews *“The 2020 Faugères offers ripe black plum and boysenberry fruit on the nose, which is extravagant and verging on ostentatious, though somehow it maintains focus and delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with red cherries, boysenberry, cola, and light allspice notes on the entry. Well balanced with impressive depth toward the fleshy finish, leaving a lick of dark chocolate on the aftertaste. This is a fine Faugères that should be afforded 4–5 years in bottle.”*

- NM, Vinous

“Lots of mulled cherries, blueberries, iron, and bouquet garni emerge from the 2020 Château Faugères, a rich, focused, yet fruit-loaded barrel sample that has a good sense of purity and elegance. I was able to taste two bottles, both showing medium to full-bodied richness, with one having slightly more precision. Both showed great mid-palates, and this is certainly a beautiful wine in the making. Two to four years should do it well and it’s going to have two decades of longevity. Barrel Sample: 93-95.”

- Jeb Dunnuck

“Deep dark ruby garnet, opaque core, violet reflections, delicate ocher edge. Fruity, ripe plums, fresh black cherries, some nougat, an inviting bouquet. Juicy, sweet wild berry fruit, freshly structured, present tannins, mineral notes on the finish, lemony and salty aftertaste, good potential for development.”

- PM, Falstaff Magazine

“On the nose, fresh, good quality, intense, powerful as well as fine texture. It reveals the notes of wild full-bodied blackcurrant, boysenberry, slight hint of concentrated violet plums, associated with touch of strawberry, small blackberry, cherry blossom, violet, de zan as well as discreet hint of pepper. On the palate, fruity, balanced, and offers nice fine texture, precise, elegance, strictness, a good definition, fine sweetness, harmony, a certain purity of the fruit, savory taste. The wine expresses the notes of full-bodied wild blackcurrant, juicy blackberry, boysenberry, and slight hint of crushed raspberry associated with juicy prune, cornflower, de zan, as well as waft of chocolate, caramel, sweet blonde tobacco. Good length.”

- Vert de Vin
