

# Château Grand Mayne 2016

CSPC# 854171

750mlx12

14.5% alc./vol.

## Grape Variety

85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc

## Appellation

Saint Emilion

## Classification

Grand Cru Classé in 1855

## Website

<https://grand-mayne.com/>

## General Info

Just over 2 miles from the acclaimed Château Cheval Blanc is Grand Mayne, a Grand Cru Classé Château within the Wine and Saint-Emilion Classification.

The name of Chateau Grand Mayne should be taken literally. Mayne comes from the word "manor", which used to mean a quality home accompanied by a large parcel of land.

In this case, the name perfectly describes the St. Emilion estate of Grand Mayne. The construction of the original Saint Emilion chateau started at the end of the fifteenth century, when it was created by the Laveau family.

The modern era of Chateau Grand Mayne begins in 1934, when Jean Nony, a well-known negociant purchased Grand Mayne from the Berbudeau family. The Nony family got their start as negociants during the 1920's. Jean Pierre Nony, the son of Jean Nony and his wife Marie Françoise Nony managed the estate from 1977 to 2001.

Since the death of her husband Jean Pierre, Marie-Françoise Nony continued managing Chateau Grand Mayne with the help of her two sons, Jean Antoine Nony and Damien Nony. In 2012, Jean Antoine Nony became the full-time General Manager of the estate. One of his first decisions was to begin a slow replanting program of the entire vineyard.

With Jean-Antoine Nony at the helm, starting with the 2015 vintage, Chateau Grand Mayne began making big improvements in quality. Part of that was due to bringing in Louis Mitjavile from Tertre Roteboeuf as their consultant. Mitjavile is no longer working with the estate.

With a prime location on one of the finest slopes in Saint-Emilion, (and at the foot of this slope), Grand Mayne - historically referred to as "Le Mayne" - is one of the most prestigious vineyards in the appellation. The chateau is a superb 16th century manor house that bears witness to the property's long history.

Thanks to a fine terroir - famous for over three centuries - as well as exemplary work in the vineyard, precision winemaking, and careful ageing, Grand Mayne produces wines that have won numerous distinctions and earned glowing reviews in the press for their exceptional bouquet of great finesse.

## Winemaker

Michel Rolland acts as their consultant.

## Vintage

2016 St. Emilion did not get off to a good start. Frankly, the initial part of the growing season started off wet, and cloudy. The massive amount of water in the vineyards and cooler temperatures set things back. Vignerons already knew 2016 Saint Emilion would be a late vintage. Bacchus must love Bordeaux because at the beginning of June, the rain stopped, the sun came out and the flowering took place during one of the few breaks in the rain. At least now, growers had a glimmer of hope. The quantity was going to be there, but would the quality come as well?

The official start of summer changed everything. The rains were gone and sunny, warm summer days with the all-important shift to cold, nighttime temperatures arrived. Now, growers needed to decide how much, or even if they should deleaf. The vignerons that were careful not to remove too many leaves, for fear of too much sun made the right choice. Indian summer conditions continued. But as the summer wore on, the extreme dryness of the 2016 Saint Emilion vintage began to have an effect on the vineyards. Young vines shut down or died. The older vines were in danger of shutting down their growth cycle as well, to avoid starvation. But September 13 and



September 14 brought about 44mm of rain, the perfect amount of moisture was delivered to the thirsty vines, and at the exact, opportune moment! The continued cold nighttime temperatures kept everything in check and growers were able to wait as long as they wished, for the grapes to achieve full maturity. Another shot of rainfall took place the night of September 30, or the morning of October 1, (depending on your point of view) and it was off to the races! The 2016 St. Emilion harvest conditions could not have been better. Some growers reported 125 days of hang time. Other produces reported spending 4 weeks picking their fruit. And why not as conditions were perfect with warm sunny weather and an extended growing season.

**Vineyards** The Chateau Grand Mayne is a Grand Cru Classe from the Saint-Emilion Grand Cru appellation. With vines averaging 35 years of age, the 17-hectare vineyard is planted on a clay-limestone hillside and at the foot of a hillside consisting of a mixture of clay and ancient sand on top of a clay subsoil. The 17-hectare St. Emilion vineyard of Grand Mayne is planted to 78% Merlot, 19% Cabernet Franc and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon. This shows an increase of Cabernet Franc over the past several years. In fact, it is the goal of the estate to continue adding more Cabernet Franc vines until they reach 35% of the vineyard.

**Maturation** The wine is aged for 18 months in barrels (65% new and 35% in one-year-old barrels).

**Tasting Notes** At tasting, the Chateau Grand Mayne 2016 shows elegance and refinement. It develops grassy aromas on the nose. On the palate, the tannins are extremely fine, and it offers crisp acidity. The finish is wonderfully refined and mineral.

**Serve with** Chateau Grand Mayne is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Grand Mayne is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised, and grilled dishes. Chateau Grand Mayne is also good when matched with Asian dishes, rich fish courses like tuna, mushrooms, and pasta.

**Production** 3,137 cases made

**Cellaring** Drink 2021-2030

**Scores/Awards** **90 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2019  
**89-92 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - May 2017  
**94 points** - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018  
**94-96 points** - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017  
**91-92 points** - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2017  
**91-93 points** - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017  
**17 points** - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - October 2018  
**89 points** - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017  
**94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2021  
**94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - September 2019  
**94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2019  
**94 points** - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017  
**94 points** - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019  
**93 points** - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019  
**93 points** - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2019  
**95 points** - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com (score only) - April 2017  
**92 points** - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - May 2017  
**16 points** - La Revue du Vin France (score only) - January 2021

**Reviews** *"A restrained style, with gently mulled plum, raspberry and black cherry fruit flavors that pick up well-detailed black tea and incense accents on the finish. A light mineral edge pierces and lifts the finish a bit, adding length. Best from 2021 through 2030. 3,137 cases made."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

*"The dusty edge that this sports from the beginning lingers throughout, while the core of plum, anise and blackberry meanders through. It's ripe but lacks some energy."*

- JM, Wine Spectator

- Reviews** *“Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 Grand Mayne features fragrant kirsch, redcurrant jelly and black plums scents with touches of garrigue, mossy bark and Sichuan pepper. Full-bodied, rich and densely laden with vibrant red and black fruits, it has a plush frame and very long, earth-laced finish.”*  
- LPB, Wine Advocate
- “The 2016 Grand-Mayne is a very different wine from those of old when sometimes it could be pushed too much in the winery. Certainly, the addition of Louis Mitjavile, François's son, has had a positive impact upon Grand-Mayne in the last two or three years. This is very elegant and refined, displaying more terroir characteristics with a gorgeous herbal lift, almost as if owner Jean-Antoine Nony had used some stems! The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, crisp acidity, almost Pomerol-like in style with more mineralité and refinement on the finish. This is a new style of Grand-Mayne, and frankly, it is one of the best I have tasted from this Saint Emilion estate.”*  
- NM, Wine Advocate
- “Solid density of fruit and velvety tannins to this one. Medium to full body, chewy tannins and a fresh finish.”*  
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- “This is a rich and balanced wine. It has generous tannins and ripe black fruits, nothing in excess. Spice and fine acidity in the aftertaste show the wine has a good medium-term future.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- “Blackish crimson. Lots of ripe black fruits plus a bit of freshness. Quite zesty and appealing with a beginning, middle and end. Really quite successful and punchy. Lightly sandpapery tannins but long and well balanced. Really quite luscious. With an appetising saltiness on the end. Apr 2017, www.jancisrobinson.com, Drink: 2023-2038.”*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- “This walks the line between extraction and freshness, with slick damson fruits and oak that stands up to attention, imparting a cinnamon biscuit feel. It's contemporary and enjoyable, but just seems to speak of cellar more than vineyard. Drink: 2023-2040”*  
- JA, Decanter.com
- “Quite youthful as you would expect, still it is difficult not to be impressed by the concentration, ripeness, elegance, freshness and energy here. Parked on the corner of elegance, freshness and opulence, the fruit shows good purity, length and vibrance. Much of what the wine has to offer is held in reserve at the moment. The wine be best after 2026.*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “With truffle notes to kick this off, the wine is plush, polished, pure and fresh. Medium/full bodied with sweet, fresh, dark cherries at its core, and soft, elegant textures on the palate, the wine needs a few years in the bottle for everything to fill out.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “They have been on fire here lately and the 2016 continues that trend. Silky, plush, polished, pure and fresh, this finesse driven wine offers good concentration and lift, with ripe, sweet, dark red fruits and licorice from start to finish.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- “Silky, lushly textured and with, ripe, polished tannins, the wine offers intensity, concentration and purity of fruit. The sweet, ripe, dark plums and black cherries with freshness, giving it a lot of vitality, along with the added nuances of licorice, smoke, and flowers. There is more depth and silkiness here than found in previous vintages.”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

**Reviews** *“The 2016 Grand Mayne has a sensual, pure bouquet of lush, crushed strawberry fruit mixed with raspberry and rose petals. The oak is very well integrated here, just oozing class. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent tannin, a fine bead of acidity and a smooth, velvety finish that beckons you back for another sip. This is a triumph, one of the best that Jean-Antoine Nony has overseen.”*

- NM, Vinous

*“The 2016 Grand Mayne has turned out beautifully. Fresh, perfumed, and nuanced, the 2016 is super-appealing. Sweet red berry, blood orange, mint and flowers add energy to an expressive Saint-Émilion that is texturally rich and also vibrant. I really like the sheer energy of the 2016. This is a wine of real character.”*

- AG, Vinous

*“The 2016 Château Grand Mayne is a beauty and could turn into a real superstar with 3-4 years of bottle age. This deep ruby-colored effort gives up lots of currant and cassis fruits as well as subtle new oak in its violet and mineral-driven aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, beautifully concentrated, with fine tannins and impeccable balance, it’s seriously impressive. Give it a few years and it should keep for two decades or more.”*

- Jeb Dunnuck

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