

Château Grand Mayne 2020

CSPC# 888287

750mlx12

14.1% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

74% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon.

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 for 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 on 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

While no catastrophic events took place, such as the recent frost hitting European vineyards few weeks ago, vintage 2020 has produced a far from homogeneous set of wines, hence careful selection is advised for your en-primeur purchases.

The heatwave at harvest has benefited the vineyards of the Right Bank, where the early ripening Merlot appears to have delivered majestic wines of imposing stature and long-ageing potential.

Harvest

41 hl/ha

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 in 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 (70% new and 30% in one-year-old barrels).

Tasting Notes

(74% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Franc, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.1% alcohol) Subtle, fruity nose, dark and red berries go hand in hand, with some herbal spice. Fresh and already accessible on the palate, appears balanced, shows life and character, finishes pleasantly long and with stimulating spiciness. Very elegant!



Serve with	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Production	Approx. 6,000 cases made annually.
Cellaring	Drink 2026-2040.
Scores/Awards	<p>93-95+ points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - May 2021</p> <p>94 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, The Wine Independent (score only) - March 2023</p> <p>92 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - January 2023</p> <p>16+ points - James Lawther, JancisRobinson.com - April 2021</p> <p>94 points - Georgina Hindle, Decanter.com - January 2023</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - May 2021</p> <p>93 points - Jane Anson, janeanson.com - January 2023</p> <p>94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - March 2023</p> <p>92-94 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - May 2021</p> <p>94 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2023</p> <p>93-95 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - April 2021</p> <p>92-94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - June 2021</p> <p>94 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - March 2023</p> <p>91-93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - May 2021</p> <p>89 points - Jean Marc Quarin (score only) - March 2023</p>
Reviews	<p><i>“Opaque purple-black in color, the 2020 Grand Mayne slowly unfurls in the glass to reveal gorgeous notions of ripe black plums, dark chocolate-covered cherries, and blackberry pie, plus hints of licorice, cracked black pepper and unsmoked cigars with a touch of tree bark. The medium to full-bodied palate is chock-full of rich black fruits, supported by ripe, rounded tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and beautifully perfumed.”</i></p> <p>- LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>“Blackberries, coffee, and some cool wet chalk. Opens up with strawberries, blackberries and dark chocolate. Full and intense on the palate with lots of dark polished fruit and sweet licorice in the long finish. Soft and smooth with good density and smooth tannins. Drink from 2015.”</i></p> <p>- JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>“Firm and muscular with a solid tannic frame. Builds gradually to a persistent finish. Fruit present but aromatically less captivating – berry fruit with a hint of mint and a chary note from the oak.”</i></p> <p>- JL, JancisRobinson.com</p> <p><i>“Punchy and vibrant, this has such style to it straight away, clean, and crystalline, a smooth core with just grainy tannins giving the weight and width. Extremely complete, a little spiced right now, with some angles overall, but lovely vibrant and concentrated blackcurrant and plum fruit with medicinal minty, wet stone, pencil lead aspects and lovely floral touches. Nice drive and presentation from an estate I love in St-Emilion. A dark, brooding style but clean, forward, and linear.”</i></p> <p>- GH, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>“Always a big wine; this is a site that encourages big tannins and once you embrace that quality, you willingly submit to the knitted-down cassis and bilberry fruits. Touches of bitter coffee as it opens, this is powerful but enjoyable and does a good job of pulling up at the last minute, offering crushed stone and juice. Barrel Sample: 93.”</i></p> <p>- JA, Decanter.com</p> <p><i>“Damson, vibrant black cherry, cassis puree, cocoa bean, and liquorice. This is concentrated, with shoulders to the tannins, and an appealing purity of fruit delivery. 15ha, Michel Rolland consultant, owned by Jean-Antoine Nony, now joined by his brother Damien. 41hl/ha yield, 50% new oak for ageing.”</i></p> <p>- JA, janeanson.com</p>

Reviews *“The complex nose, with its array of flowers, espresso, black cherries, black raspberries, and black plums wide a side of mint focuses you on the glass. But it is on the palate, with its freshness, silky tannins, and layers of mineral-edged, vibrant, sweet, fruits with their closing notes of plums, and salty, dark chocolate that seals the deal. This could be the best vintage of Grand Mayne ever produced! Drink from 2025-2050.”*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“Holding a bit in reserve, with coaxing, you find flowers, licorice, menthol, tobacco, herbs, and a myriad of plums on the nose and palate. Refined, classic, energetic, silky, and fresh, the elegant finish blends salty, slightly dusty tannins, sweet, red fruits, spice, and zip.”
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

“The 2020 Grand Mayne has a very enticing, pure bouquet that unfolds wonderfully in the glass, with ebullient raspberry and wild strawberry fruit, orange pith and subtle tobacco scents. Well-defined and focused. The palate is medium-bodied with an impressive backbone. There's a soupcon of creaminess in the second half with a precise, lightly spiced, and persistent finish that leaves you wanting more. There's no excuse not to have a few bottles tucked away in your cellar.”
- NM, *Vinous*

“The 2020 Grand Mayne is focused and delineated on a nose that offers plenty of finely chiseled scents of black cherry, bilberry, crushed rock, and incense, opulent but beautifully controlled. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe black fruit on the entry, and laced with graphite, touches of tobacco and minerals. From beginning to end, this 2020 displays wonderful tension, and there is a sense of refinement on the finish that I think has only manifested in vintages of Grand Mayne over the last 5–6 years. This delivers, or perhaps overdelivers considering the price.”
- NM, *Vinous*

“The 2020 Grand Mayne is a powerful, tannic wine. It will be interesting to see if the tannins soften. Even in the early going, the 2020 has a lot of promise. Dark red cherry, plum, spice, new leather, cedar, mint, rose petal and mocha come to life with a bit of time. The 2020 is a gorgeous wine.”
- AG, *Vinous*

“I loved the 2020 Chateau Grand Mayne. This medium to full-bodied, concentrated, incredibly satisfying Saint-Emilion offers up ample mulled red and black fruits, some loamy earth, iron, and dried flower nuances, ripe tannins, and plenty of mid-palate depth. I still think the 2015 is the top vintage, but this is clearly in the same league as the 2015, 2018, and 2019, and it's going to drink brilliantly over the coming 15-20 years. Best After 2023.”
- Jeb Dunnuck

“Always a solid wine, the 2020 Château Grand Mayne should be outstanding, if not even better. Offering a medium to full-bodied, ripe, textured style as well as lots of plum and darker fruits, it has terrific purity, building tannins, and a great mid-palate. I was able to taste this from multiple bottles, all showing a good mix of richness and freshness, and if anything, I'm being conservative with the rating.”
- Jeb Dunnuck
